

The Council re-assembled at the Council Chamber, Fort St. George at 11 a.m. on Thursday the 23rd March 1922, the hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir P. RAJAGOPALA ACHARIYAR Avargal, K.C.S.I., C.I.E., President, presiding.

I

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

[Order made by the President of the Madras Legislative Council under Standing Order No. 15—

(1) Printed copies of the questions and answers to be put and given at a meeting of the Council shall be placed on the Council table an hour before the President takes his seat.

(2) The questions shall be put and answered in the following manner :—

The Secretary shall call the name of each interpellator in alphabetical order, specify the serial numbers of his questions, and make a sufficient pause to allow him or any other member a reasonable opportunity of rising in his place if he is desirous of asking a supplementary question. Supplementary questions must be put immediately after the principal questions to which they relate.]

Enhancement of certain fees.

1385 Q.—Mr. S. ARPUDASWAMI UDAIYAR: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether the opinion of the Judges of the High Court has been obtained by the Government with regard to the enhancement in the fees for entry as Advocate, Vakil or Attorney, as proposed in article 25 of Schedule I-A to the Bill to amend the Indian Stamp Act; and

(b) if so, what opinion the Judges of the High Court have expressed with regard to this matter?

A.—(a) Yes.

(b) The Government are not prepared to publish the opinion of the Judges of the High Court in the matter as they were consulted unofficially.

Stocking of tin plate.

1386 Q.—Rao Sahib U. RAMA RAO: With reference to the statement in the last Administration Report of the Fisheries Department, that a large quantity of tin plate costing about Rs. 15,000 had been purchased owing to depletion of stock and that the quality and the packing condition of this tin plate were thoroughly unsatisfactory, will the hon. the Minister for Development be pleased to state—

(1) why, if the stock was depleted and the price was heavy, a smaller quantity was not obtained;

(2) whether it is a fact that the purchase of this consignment was arranged by Mr. Hornell when he was in England;

(3) if so, how he accounts for the inferior quality;

(4) whether he compared the prices charged by other manufacturers and obtained sanction of the Government before the purchase was made;

(5) in how many years this large consignment of tin plate will be used up by the cannery, taking the average consumption of the last five years;

(6) what was the largest quantity of tin plate purchased in a single consignment by Sir Frederick Nicholson when the cannery was under his control;

[23rd March 1922]

(7) whether it is a fact that he purchased only smaller quantities as it took only two or three months to get fresh consignments from Europe, and also because tin sheets became rusty in the moist climate of Malabar, and hence large stocks were difficult to keep; and

(8) whether the present Director and the Manager were ignorant of these facts?

4.—(1) The depletion of stock was not with the manufacturers as the hon. Member's question seems to imply but at the cannery. The quantities purchased during previous years varied between 95 and 175 boxes, but in the year 1920, 206 boxes, a somewhat larger quantity than usual, were purchased as—

(a) provision had to be made for a longer time ahead than usual owing to the uncertainties of delivery and shipment that prevailed at the time and

(b) a greatly increased output was hoped for in the ensuing season.

(2) No.

(3) & (4) These questions do not arise.

(5) The stock now on hand is 90 cases. It will last only about three months, fish being available.

(6) 175 cases.

(7) & (8) The hon. Member is referred to clause (1) above. Sir Frederick Nicholson was accustomed to purchase stock estimated to last for not more than one season and the same consideration guided the computation of the quantity indented for in 1920. Tin sheets do not become rusty in Malabar when stored with ordinary precautions.

II

DEMANDS FOR GRANTS.

DEMAND XVI—EDUCATION (NON-EUROPEAN)—*cont.*

The Council then resumed consideration of the budget for 1922–23.

Motion 530.

MR. A. T. PALMER :—“ Mr. President, Sir, I beg to make the following motion :—

530. *To omit the allotment of Rs. 25,000 for the employment of medical inspectors.*

“ Sir, the introduction of medical inspection of our young people who attend schools is a step in the right direction, and, I am sure if the parents of these students only co-operate with the schools a great deal can be done to save the life of many a promising youth. The medical inspection of schools is as follows. The department has arranged that each student should have a sheet on which are printed different columns denoting different ailments. There is also a column for the previous history of the student. The student is examined, if I am not mistaken, three times during his school course, once when he enters the school, then when he enters into the fourth form, and lastly when he leaves the school, and if it is necessary he is examined oftener. When he is to leave one school and go to another he carries this chart along with him.

23rd March 1922]

[Mr. A. T. Palmer]

“As regards the person who medically inspects the student—I am speaking of private schools—every management can choose its own medical officer who is approved by the department, and the charges due to this medical inspection are included under contingencies and the Government pays a grant on it. That is the method of procedure in vogue at present in regard to medical inspection of students. I have absolutely nothing to say against that method. I do not want it to be misunderstood that I am against medical inspection. But I am against this item that is placed here, which is, as I learn, intended for employing three medical men to inspect the Government schools, and it seems for that purpose they are going to divide the Presidency into three circles and the functions of these men are to medically inspect the Government institutions, also to collect statistics, and thirdly, if there is time, to medically inspect the other schools also. That is what I learnt yesterday from the Director of Public Instruction.”

Mr. R. LITTLEHAILES :—“I should like, Sir, that he gave my own version of the matter.”

Mr. A. T. PALMER :—“Sir, I say that the employment of these medical inspectors is not necessary. For in every place where there is a Government institution, I am sure there is some medical officer or other, and if he is paid an extra allowance for inspecting the school in that place it would be much cheaper and then it would save travelling allowance which is, as I see, not included here, but which I am sure will be budgeted for in the near future.

“Secondly, Sir, as regards the collecting of statistics, an extra clerk may be employed in the Director's office who can easily do the work.

“As for the third function of inspecting medically schools that are already being inspected by other medical men, I think it is unnecessary, and therefore, Sir, I strongly object to this item of employing medical inspectors entirely on the basis of retrenchment.”

The hon. Rao Bahadur A. P. PATRO :—“Sir, there is no question as to the need for medical inspection of schools. The hon. Mover has stated how the medical inspection of aided schools is now conducted and what it is to be with reference to the Government schools. This provision was made last year under the grant of Rs. 75,000. Last year we tried to secure qualified persons who would undertake this responsibility. We have the whole Presidency divided into sections and have to place qualified people in charge of those sections, but the salary that was offered to them was not adequate and no medical officer was coming forward to undertake this work. The arrangement could not be carried out. It has now been proposed by the Surgeon-General that a salary of Rs. 300 may be given and a medically qualified person may be selected so that he may be in a position not only to undertake the medical inspection of Government schools, but also to assist the work of the aided institutions. The aided institutions were given liberty to employ their own medical inspectors and the Government gives a grant towards the expenditure incurred by those institutions. In order to supplement their work the medical inspectors appointed by the Government are also required to see how far the work is conducted in those schools. The threefold duties referred to by the hon. Mover would involve the employment of a full-timed man, a man who is little above the grade of an Assistant Surgeon. We know the present pay of the Assistant Surgeon and when they did their work in their own

[Mr. A. P. Patro]

[23rd March 1922]

limited areas they did not want to go about the whole Presidency, or at least a third portion of the Presidency. To ask proper persons to do this work, this salary is now proposed by the Surgeon-General, and at a meeting where consultation was held among the Surgeon-General, the head of the Education Department and the Minister, it was considered necessary to give a proper salary to qualified persons in order that this work may be carried on both in Government institutions and also to supplement the work that is going on in aided institutions.

"The hon. the Mover has suggested that in order to carry on this work it is better to give some additional remuneration to the local medical officer and to have the work done. Hon. Members are aware that it is not in every place where there is a Government school there is a qualified medical officer. There are sub-assistant surgeons in charge of hospitals and dispensaries and the assistant surgeons are at the headquarters hospitals attached thereto. In such cases, it is not possible for them, in addition to their professional duties attached to the hospital or dispensary, to be able to spare time to go about in the rural parts. The schools are not concentrated at one place. If you take one district, you will see that the schools are spread over a large area and in some districts it may not be possible to ask the local medical officer to undertake this responsibility. There is that difficulty. In some other places, as the hon. Mover suggested, it may be possible perhaps at the headquarters that this work can be done. The difficulty the Surgeon-General points out is that these people do not have the special training nor will they have the time to devote for this special work of examining individual students in each class, marking their condition in the chart and then making their report as to whether there is any improvement in the physical health of the students.

"These are the difficulties that were laid before us by the Surgeon-General and we thought that we should give a trial to this experiment and see how that would work. That is why provision has been made for the next year. We believe it would not be possible to have the local medical officer to attend to this work as it would occupy most of their time. The remuneration that we ought to give them must also be sufficiently attractive to induce the people to undertake this responsibility. It is on these grounds that the allotment has been made."

11-15 a.m.

Rao Sahib U. RAMA RAO :—"Mr. President, I rise to oppose the motion made by my hon. Friend, Mr. Palmer. It is absolutely necessary that we must have some sort of supervision over the medical inspector of schools. As the hon. Minister said, it is not possible to get always men who are qualified to undertake this work of medical examination of schools. I know, Sir, as a matter of fact, big institutions, wherein we have more than a thousand students, are entrusted to the care of one medical man who is not a full-timed man and who is allowed private practice also and who can therefore devote but an hour or two in a day and who can at this rate examine no more than six or seven students if he is to examine according to the rules laid down in the forms supplied to him. Sir, every health officer is a medical man, but every medical man cannot be a qualified health officer. Even so, every medical inspector is a medical man, but every medical man cannot be a medical inspector because medical inspection work requires a special training. I was about to suggest to the hon. Minister that these inspectors must undergo a special training because medical inspection is a branch which is not very well understood in this country. An ordinary medical man, even a medical

23rd March 1922]

[Mr. U. Rama Rao]

graduate, has to know himself, learn all about medical inspection before he undertakes the work. Medical inspection does not merely consist in an examination of the pupils' health but also of the surroundings of the school, its ventilation, water-supply, drainage and questions like that. Sir, I myself have tabled a motion here to reduce the provision for medical inspection by one rupee. It is just to get some information as to the number of schools under medical inspection and the qualifications of medical inspectors. And as to the way of supervision over these medical inspectors, unless we call for returns once in three months there is no use in entrusting the work to the medical inspectors. To my own knowledge, there are institutions in the City of Madras which ought not to exist because they have no proper means of ventilation, no proper amount of light, no good surroundings and because they are in a very insanitary locality. Some years ago, Lieut.-Col. Pope is reported to have said to a young man who went to him for a remedy for short-sight thus—

‘My dear young man, what is the use of your passing the B.A. when your eyes become b-a-d due to reading in bad and ill-lighted schools and what is the use of your passing M.A. when you may become m-a-d due to want of proper care of health.

“This is perfectly true of our young men who are reading in some of the Madras institutions which are very ill-fitted to use as schools and colleges. Some of the big institutions in this city have no proper means of light and ventilation. Boys suffer from varieties of contagious diseases which could be prevented by proper medical examination of schools. For instance, diseases like short-sight, adenoids and a number of others can be checked if there is a medical inspector who goes and points out the disease to the parents of the pupil, to the headmaster or the guardian. In many cases the medical inspectors themselves are ignorant of the necessity for good ventilation and other things, and unless and until there is good supervision over the inspectors, it is of no use. I see in the budget about Rs. 2,200 is provided for boys and Rs. 2,000 for girls and again a provision of Rs. 20,000 for secondary schools under local bodies and lastly a lump provision of Rs. 25,000, thus a total amount of Rs. 50,000 nearly has been provided.” I do not know whether it is proper for the department to spend all this amount towards the employment of medical inspectors. I do not know whether it is intended for the pay of the medical examiners or the supervisors. If it is intended for the supervisors, I have no grievance, but if it is for medical inspectors I do not see any reason why we cannot compel the private institutions to pay towards the charge of medical inspectors. If the provision is intended to cover the cost of medical supervisors, the sum would not be enough because the Presidency, as the hon. Minister has said, will have to be divided into three divisions and a pay of Rs. 300 provided will be hardly sufficient to attract a man who is an authority on the subject and with these few words I strongly oppose the motion.”

Mr. C. NATESA MUDALIYAR :—“Sir, Mr. President, when I saw this motion tabled, it passed my comprehension how an educationist and a medical man thought fit to give notice of it. For, they ought to have known the advantages of medical inspection better than others. I am quite satisfied now that they realize the necessity for medical inspection. They only object to the mode of working. My hon. Friend, Dr. U. Rama Rao, mentioned

[Mr. C. Natesa Mudaliyar] [23rd March 1922]

that medical men are not well equipped and that they ought to undergo a training. I do not know what kind of training the sub-assistant surgeons have, but we, Sir, graduates of the Medical College are thoroughly equipped to do this work. We do not want any extra training. Sir, the advantages of medical inspection both to the public and to the pupils that resort to the various schools are manifold and various. The schools are one of the sources of disseminating communicable diseases such as itch, ophthalmia, pharyngitis, enteric fevers not to speak of tuberculosis and various other diseases. A boy goes to the school with itch and communicates it to other children who in their turn carry it to the various localities. The medical inspector is able to ask the authorities of the school to keep the boy away from others and if the infection is severe ask them to keep away the child from attending the school. Similarly granular eyelids and ophthalmia are spread and they can be prevented by the medical inspector. Some children happen to suffer from eruptive diseases and before the period of communicability expires, they go to school, infect other children and thus spread the diseases. The medical inspector prevents such children from going to school. In some cases children having suffered from typhoid fever go to school while they are still typhoid carriers and carry infection which the medical inspector on the spot is able to prevent. These are some of the many ways in which the medical inspector prevents spread of diseases. Coming to the children themselves, mostly in lower classes, children are affected with throat diseases, granular eyelids, pharyngitis and adenoids. Every medical man knows what the effect of adenoids is both on the various organs of the body and on the general growth of the child. The medical inspector will be able to restore the child to its health. As to granular eyelids, the tendency among our children is to allow it to develop till the child becomes purblind. The medical inspector here again nips the disease in the bud and saves the future misery of the child. Again, Sir, pupils of the higher classes, the fourth or fifth and sixth forms, are subject to other diseases. When they grow from boyhood to manhood, the organs of the body are not able to supply the demands made upon them by the changed functions of the body and they suffer from various diseases. Let us take the organ, the heart, for instance. When the boy grows into manhood, the heart begins to work itself up to supply the increased surface of the body and it will exhaust itself in trying to cope with the situation."

Mr. C. W. E. COTTON :—"Is the hon. Member in order, Sir, in giving us all these details on a consideration of the motion before the House?"

Diwan Bahadur R. VENKATARATNAM NAYUDU (*from the chair*) :—"I was just about to say that. It is not open to the hon. Member to go too much into the details on the motion under discussion."

Mr. C. NATESA MUDALIYAR :—"I only dwelt upon the necessity for medical inspection, for a medical inspector specially appointed will be able to do this. I therefore support the grant asked for medical inspection for Government colleges and schools. He need not supervise the various private institutions. I oppose the motion for reduction."

Mr. R. LITTLEHAILES :—"Sir, I do not wish to detain the Council at any length, but I have been asked by the hon. Member from this city for certain information. I refer him to the last Public Instruction report, for 1920-21, page 16 where under the heading 'Medical Inspection', the first

23rd March 1922]

[Mr. R. Littlehales]

sentence runs thus : ‘ As a result of the introduction of medical inspection in schools, 143 schools appointed medical inspectors during the year and 11,986 pupils were examined.’ With regard to the medical examination of these pupils, I might inform the Council that I have at the present moment in my office an enormous bundle of reports of medical inspection of schools. I discussed these reports in the most general manner possible with the Surgeon-General and gave him three typical reports for investigation and perusal. He went into these very carefully and he entirely agreed as to the absolute necessity of having some correlating officer. As a matter of fact, our original intention was to have three correlating officers, but the funds at our disposal were insufficient and in this matter we must accept the advice of the Surgeon-General. It is a technical matter relating to education and he maintains that a specialistic training is required with special emphasis laid upon those particular ailments to which children are most subject, like throat diseases, diseases of the eye and of the nose. As a result of the conference which the hon. the Minister referred to, at which two Ministers were present besides the Surgeon-General and myself, it was decided that we should have one medical officer appointed immediately to get the work correlated, and to enable us to bring out—I hope very very shortly—a report which I previously promised to the Council on the medical inspection of schools in this Presidency. I have in my hand the annual report of the Chief Medical Officer of the Board of Education in England for 1920. That, Sir, is a volume of over 200 pages; it contains an immense amount of information, and most useful information, for educational and medical officers not only in Great Britain but also in this country. The work that this medical officer whom we propose to appoint has to do is, as was stated, to correlate the results which we already have, to bring out a volume of this kind which will be laid before this Council, to circulate information to the various institutions and to help them in knowing what the medical state of the children in their own district is. In addition, he will have to inspect the Government schools in his area and he may be called upon by the managers of aided schools to supplement the work which is generally done in aided schools.

“ The second point that was asked related to the qualifications of the inspectors. I may state that whenever an appointment is proposed to be made, I ask the advice of the Surgeon-General as to whether that appointment is satisfactory. On his advice the appointment is made. It is a technical matter and the department of Public Instruction acts upon the technical advice of the Surgeon-General. With regard to the supervision to be exercised over the inspectors, I am in entire agreement with the remarks of the hon. Member for Madras (Mr. U. Rama Rao).”

Mr. T. SIVASANKARAM PILLAI:—“ Sir, I have heard both the hon. the Mover and the Director of Public Instruction at some length. I have absolutely no difference of opinion with regard to the necessity and importance of a system of medical inspection in schools. But, so far as what I have gathered from the remarks of the Director of Public Instruction, I fear we may want many times this Rs. 25,000 in case we want to carry on the system of medical inspection to its logical consequences. The hon. the Minister for Education has enlightened us that the institutions that are to be subjected to this medical inspection are Government schools which are strewn over the whole country, here, there and everywhere and which are ever increasing all over the land.

11-30 a.m.

[Mr. T. Sivasankaram Pillai]

[23rd March 1922]

So far as the secondary schools are concerned, I may state perhaps without any fear of contradiction that in every place where there is a secondary school, there is a local board dispensary or a Government or municipal hospital. Now, what I fear is that we may not be able to have a separate agency to do any appreciable work with this small allotment of Rs. 25,000 considering the magnitude of the work and that is why I would say that we could as well omit this provision this year, especially with such a huge deficit staring us in our face. Meanwhile, there are some means by which we can carry on this kind of inspection work. Now, once more I may say that even in a dispensary there is a qualified man attached to it and he can be asked to go about the schools in the area once in two or three months, make an inspection—a cursory inspection of course—and he may report the results of such inspection to the local authority or to the manager of that particular school. He can even inspect the local board institutions also and when there are one or two exceptional cases which are very complicated and which require deeper investigation, it is perfectly open to that sub-assistant surgeon to report the matter to the manager of the school or to the Government so that that particular child may be sent to the district headquarter where there is a medical man of superior qualifications to examine the case, diagnose and do the needful. There is another thing also. We may not be able to do all that is required to be done with regard to the health of the children by mere medical inspection. Even after the medical inspection there are so many other things to be done. My friend, Mr. Rama Rao, was telling us that there was also the question of sanitation, ventilation and all these things. What is this medical inspection going to do in the way of meeting all these requirements? Supposing there is a medical inspector who goes to a school and finds that that school is ill-ventilated and is in an insanitary condition. Who is to improve all that? Where is the money to come from to set right all these defects? How are we to find funds for building really sanitary schools? All these things do arise. When we have absolutely no means of meeting or attending to the advice of medical inspectors, what is the good of this provision of Rs. 25,000 which is no small slice of the money that we have at our disposal. Assuming that a system of medical inspection is absolutely necessary in order to bring our educational institutions into line with those existing in other civilized countries, my only fear is that this Rs. 25,000 will certainly not be sufficient. I quite agree with the hon. the Mover, Mr. Palmer, that it is absolutely necessary, but nothing is going to be achieved by this Rs. 25,000. That is the reason why I support the mover."

Mr. A. T. PALMER :—" I withdraw my motion, Sir."

The motion was by leave withdrawn.

Motion 531.

The following motion was not made :—

Rao Sahib U. RAMA RAO :—

531. *To reduce the allotment of Rs. 25,000 for the employment of medical inspectors by Re. 1.*

23rd March 1922]

Motion 532.

MR. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—"Mr. President, I beg to make the following motion :—

532. *To reduce the allotment of Rs. 73,88,136 for primary education by Rs. 100.*

"Sir, in this connexion I want to draw the attention of the House to grants to local bodies and to educational councils. As regards the grants to local bodies, the Government have promised to give them Rs. 2 per teacher provided the local boards find a similar sum from their resources. There is a further limitation on this, viz., that it should be from their general resources. That is how I understand the position to be. Now it is a well-known fact that local bodies have hardly the wherewithal to meet their normal expenditure and to expect them to find any amount out of their general resources to give as additional pay to teachers is, I think, asking them to do an impossible task. This reminds me of certain philanthropic gentlemen in big places who subscribe perhaps Rs. 10,000 on paper and say that that amount will be given to them if they can find another hundred people who will pay a similar sum. They are pretty certain that that sum will not be forthcoming and that the promised amount is quite safe in their own keeping. I do not say that the Government are actuated by similar motives, but the net result of their condition is more or less the same in this particular instance. I think it is not fair that these local bodies should be asked to find the money out of their general resources. Strictly speaking I think Government should make this grant unconditionally.

"The next point to which I wish to invite the attention of the hon. the Minister is as regards the district educational councils. I fear these educational councils have not been doing all that they were expected to do when they were first sanctioned. Really it is time for us to consider whether the district boards may not be asked to take over this work. Now, the majority of the members in these councils consist of district board and taluk board members. There are a few members elected by the municipalities and there are also one or two educational officers on it. Surely it should be possible for us to devise a system by which such representatives from the municipalities or from educational agencies may find a place on the district board, and I think a body consisting of all these may well be entrusted with the work of looking after the education of its particular district. As it is, we are spending a lot of money in the form of establishment, at the rate of two clerks and two peons for each council, rent for the building, and travelling allowance of members of the council, and after all most of the work done by the councils is simply to record the Government orders received, or file certain copies of proceedings they may get. Surely I think for work of that sort, a sum of a lakh of rupees, or it may be even more at the end of the year, seems to be unnecessary."

The hon. Rao Bahadur A. P. PATRO :—"Sir, hon. Members will remember that the teaching grant is given not as an absolute grant, but because it was found that the local bodies were not able to pay adequately to their teachers. When the finances of the Government of Madras were in a flourishing condition, a grant of Rs. 4 was given purely as a matter of famine condition for one year and one year only. During that period the local boards have had funds contributed from provincial revenues to pay their teachers at the rate

[Mr. A. P. Patro]

[23rd March 1922]

of Rs. 4 each. If the local boards desired to continue that payment, they would have to find money from out of their own resources to supplement the salaries of the teachers. However that may be, representations were received from the Elementary Teachers' Association all over the country that this grant should be repeated and that their conditions were such that unless increased salary was given, they would not be able to continue as such. In view of the demand from several sources, Government thought that out of the Rs. 4 grant, it would be reasonable that half of it should be borne from provincial funds. Hon. Members will remember that this grant of Rs. 2 is a recurring grant and therefore every year, as far as funds would permit, Government are prepared to pay the Rs. 2 grant to the local bodies, the other Rs. 2 being met by themselves."

Sriman BISWANATH DAS Mahasayo :—"I would like to be informed, Sir, whether the Rs. 2 grant is an annual recurring grant, or whether it is bound down by restrictions and limitations."

The hon. Rao Bahadur A. P. PATRO :—"It is, as I said, an annual recurring grant subject to the vote of the Legislative Council. Every year the grant will come up before the Legislative Council and the Legislative Council has to sanction it. Otherwise it is a recurring grant given to the local bodies. The other Rs. 2 has to be found from the resources of the local bodies. The local bodies have to levy an education cess for the purpose of the expansion of elementary education and for the introduction of compulsion also. Some local bodies may after levying this education cess satisfy themselves that they have done all that they could for the teachers and may not provide anything in addition to the cess for this education grant. There are various sources now open to the local bodies for increasing their resources. They can increase the local rates. The new Municipalities Act and the Local Boards Act give ample powers to local bodies so that they may tap all their resources and increase the rates as much as possible. Now, consider the position of the provincial finance. If you want that the Rs. 4 grant or the Rs. 2 grant should be absolutely given, then it might be that the local bodies would not exploit all their resources, nor would they economise in the way that they ought to in order to find the Rs. 2 for their teachers. It was with a view to encourage economy in the administration of local boards and with a view to make them self-reliant as far as possible by increasing their own rates without having to depend entirely on provincial revenues that the Government decided to give the Rs. 2 grant to those local bodies who were able to allot an equal amount from their own resources, whereas to make them entirely dependent on provincial revenues seems to me to be crippling the independence of the local bodies. The Rs. 2 grant was given with a view to give them more liberty and freedom in their own local administration and in order to help them to rely on their own resources, I know that representations have been received recently that certain local bodies are not able to find this Rs. 2 from any of their resources. But that is a matter entirely for my hon. Colleague the Finance Member to see whether he will be able to release those local bodies from such a condition or not. If such representations, as I said, come in, it will be a matter for consideration, after examining the financial condition of that particular local body, whether that particular local body has managed its affairs prudently and economically and whether it requires any special aid or not. But as far as the general proposition is concerned, it seems to me to

23rd March 1922]

[Mr. A. P. Patro]

be a very sound one that the Rs. 2 grant should be given from provincial revenues when the local bodies are able to raise the other Rs. 2 themselves in order to give the teachers an increment on their salaries.

“The second point raised by my hon. Friend, Mr. A. Ranganatha Mudaliyar, is that these district educational councils are not doing any work at present. I am sure that those who have been managing the district educational councils do not agree with him at all in the matter. The presidents of the Nellore district board and the Cuddapah district board do not agree at all with the hon. Member Mr. Ranganatha Mudaliyar. I am sure that those who have been really taking interest as Mr. C. V. S. Narasimha Raju who has helped us in the matter of framing rules really believe that there is very much work for the district educational councils to do. Specially looking at the powers given to these councils in the matter of preparing their own curriculum of studies in consultation with the local inspecting officer, and considering the liberty that is given to them in the matter of school buildings—for either they can have pakka buildings or have places where there is the necessary air and ventilation—and seeing also that in the matter of the selection of text-books great freedom is given to these councils you can understand the nature of the work these councils will have to do. Gradually you will find that there are a large number of representatives from the local boards and the municipalities in these educational councils who will be assisted by the local educational officer whose help will be useful in the matter of organization, expansion of elementary education, selection of text-books and arranging curricula that will suit local conditions. Therefore, we find that there is plenty of work to be done by these district educational councils. It is only recently, as you know, that these rules have come into force and some councils may find it difficult because we have only recently published the rules. From the rules now published it will be seen that there is very large scope for useful and active work for the district educational councils in the matter of the expansion of elementary education, especially when the new schools have to be founded by them and when the responsibility is cast on them they will find that greater work has to be done by them. When we are withdrawing the supervisors from elementary education and placing sub-inspectors to be assisting these district educational councils you find that the responsibility falls upon the members of the district educational councils to find new schools and also recognize schools wherever there is a demand from private agencies. This is not an easy task and this is a very responsible task. Therefore if this item of expansion of work is to be carried on by the district educational council I will consider that it is doing a very great service to the country and it will be a service that will be considered as one of the items of national service to be rendered by the district educational council.”

Sriman BISWANATH DAS Mahasaya :—“Sir, the hon. the Minister for Education has given us some idea of the working of the district educational councils. Many of the members, I am sure, will not agree with him and those that have got some experience of them know how paltry is the return that we get for the money that we are spending. Having tasted something of the diarchy in the Provincial Government, I am sorry that the Minister for Education should have chosen to introduce this precious experiment in all

[Mr. Biswanath Das]

[23rd March 1922]

directions of our activities. For instance the local boards are left to manage some of the board schools and then the district educational council is there to look after some other schools."

Mr. R. LITTLEHAILES:—"May I just correct a misapprehension and state that the district educational councils manage no schools?"

Sriman BISWANATH DAS Mahasayo:—"I know that the district educational council does not manage any school; but it has a very important function to perform in connexion with the distribution of grants. I am sure that if either of these activities were handed over to the local bodies or the management of all the schools is transferred from the local bodies to a sort of educational board as in England it will be an excellent thing. I am sure that this double control will, after a very short time, bring us a crop of trouble and differences and end in a tug of war between the local bodies and the district educational councils. After all the work turned out by these district educational councils is nothing. The most important work that they have to do is the distribution of grants which I am sure was very well done by the inspecting officers. Had the inspecting officers sought the help of some of the members of the local boards or had called the local bodies to elect some representatives to help in their work I am sure the Government would have done far better work with little expenditure than what has been done now. Secondly as for the collection of statistics, that is one of the works of the district educational councils. I am sure the inspectorate would have done it better and I know—as I had some correspondence with the district educational council, Ganjam—and I can assure the Director of Public Instruction and the hon. the Minister for Education that even in these returns of statistics they will find great difficulty and utmost delay. These returns will thus be much more delayed than before. As for the curriculum I think they could have done well if they had sought the opinion of some of the educationists of this country or co-operation of some of the educationists in each district with the co-operation of the local bodies. So from these it is clear that the formation of another body like the district educational council is not very useful. As for the two rupees grant referred to by the hon. the Minister for Education I wish to say that these local bodies have started schools on the perfect understanding that the Government will give them subsidies from time to time. These schools when they were first started had teachers who were paid Rs. 8. Subsequently the pay was enhanced to Rs. 12. Government paid the increase in order to have the teachers brought to this standard. I believe when the present Education Member spoke on a similar resolution before the House he presented a grave situation that might arise unless these teachers were paid Rs. 4. Having thus realized the difficulty and danger I am sure he ought to have chosen a better course and should have at least given freely to the local bodies the grant of two rupees without restrictions. Then the hon. the Minister spoke of the increased resources of these local bodies. I think he has not realized the difficulties of these local bodies who were kept half-starved and who were left to drag on a miserable existence. If in this plight he would call upon them to contribute two rupees quota out of their funds, I am sure they will have to close some of their activities to meet the Education Member half way. Sir, he has spoken of and laid much stress on the increased resources. I am sure the increased resources he refers to is the three pies cess which the new Local

23rd March 1922]

[Mr. Biswanath Das]

Boards Act authorized them and also the education cess. I may at the outset inform him that the people have to pay so many cesses. All these cesses now come to one anna nine pies in the rupee. There has therefore been a tendency among the members of the local boards to oppose these cesses and they cannot therefore expect very great income from this source. Then the second source that we have is the company tax and the profession tax. The profession tax and the company tax are not expected to be very good sources of income in view of the undeveloped state of our country. The increased salary of the sub-assistant surgeons, the sanitary officers, schoolmasters, the vaccination officers and the various other expenses they have to meet are nothing in comparison with the new sources of income that the Government were pleased to show them. Under these circumstances it is very unfair for the Government to ask the local bodies to pay out of their resources two rupees to have the benefit of the two rupees grant. So, I believe the hon. the Minister for Education will remove all the restrictions and distribute the grant with a free hand without any restrictions."

Diwan Bahadur M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—"Sir, my friend Mr. Ranganatha Mudaliyar who moved this resolution stated that this promise of two rupees by the Government to the local bodies was analogous to the promise of a person who makes a promise of contributing 10,000 rupees for a charitable purpose on condition that the persons concerned will also contribute an equal amount, knowing very well that the persons concerned cannot and will not contribute a like amount. I may be permitted to tell my friend that it was not in this spirit that the Government have promised this two rupees contribution. This question was carefully considered by the Finance Committee and at first it was difficult to provide for this two rupees contribution. But the Finance Member and the Finance Committee found that the local boards were also in difficulties. A great deal has been said to-day about the financial difficulties of the local boards, and it was with a knowledge of these difficulties that the Finance Committee and the Finance Member at length consented to give this two rupees contribution on the distinct understanding that the local bodies concerned must also contribute a like amount. Sir, it is not possible to make any larger contribution and it was not for want of sympathy with the local bodies that this amount was not raised to a higher figure."

The Rev. W. MESTON:—"I should like to express my satisfaction with the attitude taken by the hon. the Minister in regard to the questions that have been raised by the mover of this motion.

12 noon.

As regards the matter of grants to local bodies, I venture to say that in going through the various discussions in this Council and in other places I find there is sometimes a tendency to confusion between education which is managed by local bodies and education which is managed by private agencies. In other words, I feel that there is a desire on the part of some that local bodies should have not only the benefit of the powers conferred upon them under statute in regard to education but should also have the benefit of the grant-in-aid system. The hon. the Minister has made it perfectly clear that these two things do not mix. They must be kept perfectly separate. The local bodies have their own means of raising funds for education; in their desire to advance it in their own areas they tax themselves, and in proportion as they sacrifice their own resources they receive the subsidy of Government. Private agencies have no powers to raise money by taxation,

[Mr. W. Meston]

[23rd March 1922]

they give out of their own resources, and in proportion as they give they receive the aid of Government. I trust that this distinction will be kept perfectly clear by members of this Council.

"Secondly as regards district educational councils, we have seen them working for less than twelve months. But my membership of one of them has made me feel that these councils confer real benefit on education generally. And consultation with others some of whom are chairmen of these councils and who are also members of this House has confirmed me in that position. Thus by means of a council where all interests are represented and where nothing but education is considered, the advantages to education are great and I trust that they will be found to be so great that as time goes on further responsibilities will be bestowed upon these bodies, and then we shall see how they will become most important factors in the development of national education."

Mr. T. SIVASANKARAM PILLAI:—"Sir, I am quite in agreement with the view that the aid which the Government has given towards the emoluments of teachers is not enough. At the same time I must take this opportunity of thanking the Minister for Education and the Director of Public Instruction for the earnestness which all the year round they have been evincing in the cause of elementary school teachers and elementary education in general. I must also thank the Finance Member for the sympathy with which he seems to have met the demands of the Education Minister and the Director of Public Instruction. No doubt, there are many local bodies who have decided to levy the education tax. Government, no doubt, is doing its best in giving its aid towards elementary education. Now we have not only the promised contribution of money which is equivalent to the tax that we raise over and above the usual contribution that we used to receive towards the net cost of maintaining these elementary schools but in addition to that we have these Rs. 2 out of Rs. 4, for which I do feel thankful to the Government as one connected with the spread of education in rural parts. I have one request in this connexion. Now I put this question before the Government as also the Education Minister for consideration. We of the Penukonda Taluk Board were giving till August of last year in spite of Government Orders to the contrary at the rate of Rs. 4 to all our elementary school teachers and my district board president said that since the Government withheld this grant he ought not to risk and that he should see that he kept himself within the financial limit. That is, till the end of August last year, the taluk board has been paying all these teachers in spite of Government Orders at the rate of Rs. 4 each and when it was stopped the cry grew more intense among the local board teachers for increase of their pay and we were considering how to meet this very reasonable demand. Recently in consultation with the educational officers of my district, we had to revise the pay of these teachers. In doing so, we dropped the allowance system and gave a substantial increase to their pay. We raised the minimum pay of untrained teachers from Rs. 10 to Rs. 12 in place of Rs. 10 + 4 allowance. The trained teacher who used to get the minimum of Rs. 12 + 4 is now paid Rs. 15 as pay without allowance, the increase extending to those receiving higher scales also. What I would ask the Education Minister and the Director of Public Instruction is that we may not be denied the benefit of the moiety allowance on the technical ground that we have ceased to pay allowance as such. The local boards also may be relieved from the condition that they ought to meet the expenditure

23rd March 1922] [Mr. T. Sivasankaram Pillai]

under allowance from general revenues without encroaching on the power of education tax.

“With regard to the usefulness of the educational council, I am sorry I have to differ from my friend Mr. Ranganatha Mudaliyar.”

Rao Bahadur A. S. KRISHNA RAO PANTULU :—“Sir, two questions have been raised in the discussion of this motion; one relating to the grant of allowance of Rs. 2 by the Government and the other, to the utility of district educational councils. So far as the first question is concerned, if the Finance Member and the Minister for Education had said that on account of the present financial stringency it was not possible to grant an allowance of more than Rs. 2 for a teacher and sanctioned the grant without any further conditions, there would have been no such room for dissatisfaction, because everybody appreciates the real difficulty of the position in which the Government is placed. The boards would have then tried to the best of their ability either to supplement these grants or to satisfy the teachers with the grants given by the Government. But the imposition of these conditions has placed some of the boards in a very difficult position. Some had to close with hopeless minus balances. They had to choose between denying the benefit of this provision to these elementary school teachers altogether and cutting down urgent requirements of theirs, even then budgeting for a large minus balance. I think it would have been more satisfactory if the grant was sanctioned without these conditions and the local boards were given a free hand in the matter. I was somewhat taken aback when my friend the hon. the Minister for Education stated that the case of such local boards which were placed in this unhappy predicament would be separately considered and referred us to the hon. the Finance Member. I think, Sir, that so far as the question of giving this allowance to these teachers was concerned, the hon. the Minister for Education should have taken the responsibility himself without placing them again at the mercy of the hon. the Finance Member and given them the additional allowance without any such conditions. He not only required these local bodies to satisfy the department of education but he also wanted them to satisfy the requirements of the Finance Member.

“Now coming to the question of district educational councils, I believe there has been some misapprehension as to the scope of the work of these councils if we are to understand correctly the spirit of the remarks made by Mr. Ranganatha Mudaliyar. There is not the slightest doubt that they have a very useful field of work if they are to discharge their functions properly. There is not the slightest doubt that we cannot ask for all the powers now vested in the district educational councils to be vested in the local boards themselves. However much we may be wedded to our faith in these local boards, we have a number of schools—about two-thirds of the total number are aided schools—and unless managers of aided schools have confidence in the local boards themselves, we must have bodies like the district educational councils in which all interests are represented to deal with this question of grants. The distribution of grants is more difficult in the case of aided schools than in the case of other schools and the district educational council has very important duties to discharge. It was stated that they have only to record reports and so forth. It is not so. My hon. Friend may rest assured that the question of distribution of grants is a very difficult question indeed. Before grants are distributed,

[Mr. A. S. Krishna Rao Pantulu] [23rd March 1922]

various reports are sent regarding these schools from the sub-assistant inspectors to assistant inspectors of schools and again from the assistant inspectors to the inspectors of schools and from them again to the presidents of the district educational councils. They have to be scrutinized carefully before they are disposed of and grants are distributed. I may also state that so far as my experience goes in connexion with the district educational council with which I am concerned, in a number of cases we had to differ from the recommendations made by the inspecting officers and in consultation with them we modified the grants recommended by them. It requires, no doubt, an amount of time and an amount of trouble in dealing with these questions. Again, Sir, it must be stated that the Director of Public Instruction has inaugurated the policy of asking the councils to distribute arrear grants. This means additional responsibility. He was perfectly right in doing so because he wanted to wash off his responsibility in the matter of distribution. I wish to impress on the hon. the Minister for Education and the Director of Public Instruction that if they really want that these district educational councils should do their work satisfactorily, the amount placed at their disposal is quite inadequate. I may give some practical instances. Thousands of reports had to be considered by us and we had some special sittings for the consideration of these reports. There are again members from the rural parts who are prepared to interest themselves in the matter. When we were getting several reports from schools in which adequate grants were not recommended, the members of the council naturally asked me why they should not be given facilities to inspect schools in their own particular ranges and then to report about their actual condition in the light of the recommendations of the inspecting officers. I had to tell them that if they did so they had to take the responsibility themselves and do it at their cost. However much they desired to do the work and make reports, proper funds were not forthcoming. If only the work is to be done satisfactorily, Government must place them in possession of funds to a larger extent."

Rao Bahadur C. V. S. NARASIMHA RAJU :—" Mr. President, I only want to refer to the recent order of the Government regarding the allowance passed about the beginning of this month. By that time the taluk boards have finished the preparation of their revised budget and they have also finished the preparation of budget for the next year. The allotment is at Rs. 2 for each teacher. At this rate a sum of Rs. 3,000 or Rs. 4,000 will be required; when the number of schools is nearly 150 or so, I do not think that it is possible for any taluk board to readjust its budget in order to obtain the grant which the Government promises. It is more inconvenient for the taluk boards in the current year. When the Government issued the order in the month of March, I wonder how the taluk boards can readjust their revised budgets in order to pay their teachers the increment of Rs. 4. In that aspect of the question I believe my friend Mr. Ranganatha Mudaliyar is perfectly right in his remarks regarding the current year. I am glad that the hon. the Minister has promised to consider separately the case of those boards which are not able to avail themselves of this grant."

Rai Bahadur T. M. NARASIMHACHARLU :—" Sir, I have got to say only a few words on this motion as the hon. the Minister has referred to me in the course of his speech. Firstly as regards the question raised by my hon. Friend Mr. Ranganatha Mudaliyar about the

23rd March 1922]

[Mr. T. M. Narasimhacharlu]

grants, I can say that it would be extremely good if we are given the full loaf. But instead of having none, we will be thankful to the Government to have at least half a loaf and the Government also promised that these grants will be recurring grants. No doubt there is this difficulty that the local bodies have to find funds equal to that amount. But in a laudable question like this, I do not think it will be difficult for the local bodies to find funds. They may starve other activities to some extent, but they should be able to find funds for this very necessary purpose of assisting primary education. That is my view of the matter. I, however, realize the difficulties of the local bodies, but I think all of them can be overcome. That is about the first question.

“As regards the second question, I cannot agree with my hon. Friend Mr. Ranganatha Mudaliyar that the educational council is not necessary, in the sense that the local bodies can themselves manage elementary education or rather deal with elementary education in the district. My hon. Friend forgets that the local bodies do not have all the elementary schools in the district. There are some schools managed and maintained by them and there are other schools managed and maintained by other persons or bodies. It is with the object of bringing all these primary schools to co-ordinate with one another on important questions and to lay down a uniform policy with regard to elementary education in a particular district that these educational councils were established. I myself am a member of one of the district educational councils and I know we have got very hard work to do in the councils. The establishment of the district educational councils has brought to prominent notice the vagaries that have been going on for several years undetected in these primary schools. There were several bogus schools and in them there were several bogus pupils; the educational authorities, namely, the sub-assistant, the assistant inspectors of schools and even the inspector of schools were unable to detect these things. But now, as there are members in the educational council from the various parts of the district, every member knows the vagaries connected with the portion of the district from which he comes and he would bring them to the notice of the council at its general meeting. In that way we would be able to detect several vagaries. I think that is really a very great advantage and we now see that money is very usefully spent. We are now in the beginning of it and even in the very beginning we find the advantages of the district educational council. As time goes on and as we gather more experience, I think these district educational councils will confer very great benefit on primary education.

“Lastly, I submit that these local bodies have got a good deal of functions to perform. They are not merely engaged in education but they have got several other functions to do. Education is only one of their functions and it would be impossible to devote much time to it. As education is one of the best needs of the country especially primary education, it is better that it is brought under the sole management of a council whose sole duty is to deal with primary education. I therefore cannot at all agree with my hon. Friend Mr. Ranganatha Mudaliyar.”

MR. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR:—“Sir, we had a debate on this question at considerable length and I propose to withdraw my motion. But before doing so, I wish to make a few observations. The hon. the Minister for Education has conceded that there are a number of local bodies which are perfectly unable to meet this demand of finding this Rs. 2 to pay all their teachers. As regards such boards at least, he must make up his mind to give

[Mr. A. Ranganatha Mudaliyar] [23rd March 1922]

this grant unconditionally. Needless to say that these districts are the districts in the famine zone including the district of Ganjam. As regards the district educational councils, I do not think I have heard anything to change my mind. I never stated that district boards as they stand at present should discharge the functions of district educational councils. I did suggest that some modifications are necessary in the constitution of the district boards before they can be expected to discharge the functions of the district educational councils. For example, the managers of aided elementary schools may be constituted into an electorate to elect a member to the council. The municipalities may be asked to elect one member to represent them on the board and the Government may be asked to nominate certain educational officers to serve on the board. I think a district board so constituted will be sufficiently representative and the lack of machinery complained of by my hon. Friend Mr. Krishna Rao would be met by such an arrangement. With these remarks, I beg to withdraw my motion."

The motion was by leave withdrawn.

Motions 533 and 534.

The following motions were not made :—

Mr. K. PRABHAKARAN TAMPAN :—

533. *To omit the grant of three lakhs provided for opening new elementary schools.*

Rao Bahadur C. V. S. NARASIMHA RAJU :—

534. *To omit the allotment of Rs. 3,600 for personal assistant, Madras Educational Service.*

Motion 535.

Mr. T. C. TANGAVELU PILLAI :—"Sir, I beg to make the following motion :—

535. *To omit the allotment of Rs. 3,600 for personal assistant.*

"In making this motion it is my intention to draw the attention of the hon. the Minister for Education to the fact that this department is too top-heavy. In 1920-21 and in 1919-20, there was no additional deputy director or deputy directress. It is only since last year that these two additions have been made and the machinery has been made too top-heavy. I would appeal to the hon. the Minister for Education to see that these two posts are abolished. I would also submit that in no other province of India is there a deputy directress and I do not see why there should be one in this Presidency alone to supervise female education. It is not the case in Bombay or Burma and we find there that the Director of Public Instruction is managing the whole affair."

Diwan Bahadur M. RAMACHANDRA RAO PANTULU :—"I beg to rise to a point of order, Sir. I should like to know whether the hon. Member is speaking on personal assistant or on deputy director."

Mr. T. C. TANGAVELU PILLAI :—"With regard to the point of order raised by my hon. Friend I must say that the four items being non-votable, we cannot make any reduction in them. We can only take a subject which is votable and that is the personal assistant. That gives me an opportunity to express my views on the too top-heavy machinery. There is no necessity for these two additional appointments. They never existed

23rd March 1922]

[Mr. T. C. Tangavelu Pillai]

before the reforms. Before the reforms, the machinery was rather simple; then there was only the Director of Public Instruction who was assisted by a deputy director. I therefore appeal to the hon. the Minister for Education to reconsider the whole matter and see whether he can avoid this imposition of a heavy burden on the tax-payer."

The hon. Rao Bahadur A. P. PARRO:—"Sir, no one will be more pleased than myself or the Director of Public Instruction if it were possible to cut down what my hon. Friend calls the top-heavy system. But the work in the Director's office is such—my hon. Friend Mr. Ramalinga Chettiyar had an occasion to go round the office and inspect the work done and was satisfied that the work was heavy—that it is absolutely necessary that there should be an assistant for the Director. If we want the Director to do his work properly and efficiently, then we should have to give him proper assistance not only in the matter of conducting routine work but in the discharge of the various problems that come up in the matter of secondary and collegiate education. The two deputy directors that are now in his office are fully occupied with the work that comes in connexion with elementary, secondary and collegiate education. Not only the distribution of the grants, but also the various problems and schemes that come from the districts have to be closely scrutinized and examined and the Government have to be advised by the Director on the suggestions made by these responsible persons. It is not possible for us to have a less responsible officer as assistant to the director in the matter because he will have to deal with educational problems that come from the districts, they have to be completely thrashed out and recommendations made to the Director. Similarly with reference to the women's branch of education, hon. Members of the House will agree that in order to develop female education, it is necessary that there should be a special officer who would be interested in the development of women's education. Whatever may be the difficulties of the present incumbent, whatever may be the irregularities pointed out and whatever may be the disadvantages we cannot but come to the conclusion that in spite of the defects, in spite of the irregularities and in spite of the disadvantages, we want a special officer who would be the watch-dog for the purpose of expansion of female education in this Presidency. If you do not have a special officer who would devote her or his time for the purpose of ascertaining or inquiring into the condition both in the districts and in the City, then you will not have proper education. The Director would be fully occupied as I told you with reference to education of boys and education in colleges. Therefore in addition to these three officers the personal assistant would be a very useful office assistant to the Director. You have got a whole establishment wherein a number of clerks and managers are working; in order to see that these clerks work properly, that their work is properly systematized and carried out that there is no waste of time or energy, it is necessary that the Director should have a personal assistant. If you look into the condition of work that these people have got to do, then I am sure the council will agree with me that the Director requires a personal assistant. Unless we reduce the work of the Director, I do not see how we can reduce the top-heavy system. Therefore you have to devise means to reduce the work of the Director and it is for the council to suggest in what way it can be done. We are really considering the whole matter with regard to the reorganization of the educational system in the province, how far we can relieve the congestion of work of the Director and how far we can relieve him

[Mr. A. P. Patro]

[23rd March 1922]

from doing ordinary work which his subordinates can do. If the district inspectorate reorganization is completed, then it will be time enough for this council to consider whether the top-heavy system as it is called can be reduced or not. But, under the present existing conditions, it seems to me that none of these officers can be dispensed with. As I told you yesterday, I may repeat that, unless the system is changed and unless the department is reorganized, it will not be possible to do away with any of the officers. Until then it is absolutely necessary to have the whole of this staff to aid the Director of Public Instruction."

Mr. T. C. TANGAVELU PILLAI :—" We see there are certain irregularities in the department. I may give an instance. A letter was 12-30 p.m. addressed to the Director of Public Instruction by a teacher, Venkatachalam Chetti by name. I approached the Director of Public Instruction on behalf of the petitioner. He was good enough to call for the papers but the papers could not be traced. This was due to the fact that there were too many officers as the deputy director, additional deputy director, deputy directress and the personal assistant. No doubt the Director was good enough to ask the petitioner to re-submit the petition. On the assurance given by the hon. the Minister that he would re-consider his scheme, I withdraw the motion. He wanted us to give him suggestions. We are prepared to do so."

The motion was by leave withdrawn.

Motion 536.

The following motion was not made :—

Mr. K. PRABHAKARAN TAMPAN :—

536. *To reduce the allotment of Rs. 49,084 provided for establishment by Rs. 12,271.*

Motion 537.

Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—" In moving

537. *To reduce the allotment of Rs. 1,41,000 for general direction by Rs. 100*

" I wish to invite the attention of the House to the women's education in this Presidency. I think, Sir, dealing as we are with Indian girls, I should think that the inspection agency should consist of Indian women. (Rao Sahib U. Rama Rao—'Hear, hear.')

On the other hand, I find a number of costly appointments in the cadre of Indian Educational Service. In it Indians are not practically represented. Taking the civil list, I find among the Inspectresses Miss R. McLeod, Miss Alice Sergeant, Mrs. M. A. Srinivasa, Miss A. DeRozario and Miss M. C. E. Karney. Now, Sir, I think it is wholly objectionable that we should have a foreign agency to look after the education of Indian women. I think it is a national question in which all of us are concerned very much. I ask the hon. Minister if he cannot see his way to appoint Indian women for these posts. If he could not find people, with the necessary qualifications, I think these appointments should be kept vacant until we are able to fill them with Indian women. Coming to the question of the deputy directress, I think the appointment is entirely superfluous."

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" Order order. Is not the post of the deputy directress one of the italicised appointments?"

23rd March 1922]

MR. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—"I beg to invite your attention to the fact that we are entitled to refer to it, in discussing such a motion of reduction of allotment as this."

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—"Is it contended that this post should go?"

MR. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—"I suggest that it should be done away with. In this connexion I should like to read what took place last year when I raised a similar question—

'The hon. Sir LIONEL DAVIDSON :—"I must again raise the same point of order. The particular proposition now urged relates to the abolition of Inspectors. I say that the provision for such officers is a non-votable item. I seek your ruling that he cannot attack the item of Inspectors.'

"Then you observed, Sir,—

'I have no hesitation in giving an answer to that point. A specific motion asked for in a non-votable grant will be out of order. But in a general motion where opportunity is taken to review the whole matter, it is perfectly open to the hon. Member to condemn or find fault with the administration even of a non-votable item, because he is putting forward suggestions for the consideration of the Government. What the House is asked to decide is to make a total reduction under the head "Education." Otherwise, it is difficult for the administration of any department to be criticized. I would rather allow it.'

"That is my recollection. It is for the President to decide."

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—"Yes. The hon. Member will go on."

MR. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—"I say this appointment is superfluous. The hon. the Minister is referring to old conditions to justify the present position. When we have our own Minister, an elected representative of the people at the head of the educational administration of the Presidency he can well look after boys' education as well as girls' education. It is for him to lay down a policy, and it is for his subordinates to carry out his policy. I do not think that the deputy directress of instruction is necessary with such a high pay."

The hon. Rao Bahadur A. P. PATRO :—"It is very inconvenient for me to answer the question raised by the hon. Mover of this resolution. If a resolution on the same subject is tabled by him or by anybody else, then it will give me an ample opportunity to go into the pros and cons of the question. But in a debate on the budget it will not be possible to answer the very important question which the hon. Member has raised. I have already said what I had to say on the subject in my remarks on another motion."

MR. C. RAMALINGA REDDI :—"The hon. the Minister for Education has informed the House, that he is contemplating some reorganization of the department. I was wondering whether it could not be convenient to the House if the hon. the Minister will see his way to take us into his confidence and indicate the general lines which he is considering. I have no right to ask him. I hope he would do so without inconvenience to himself, and give an opportunity for discussion in this Council."

DIWAN BAHADUR M. RAMACHANDRA RAO PANTULU :—"In connexion with the question of recruitment to the inspectorate, I wish to inquire if the hon. Minister has had any application from qualified Indian lady graduates for appointment to this branch of the service and whether these appointments are filled up in England purely on the initiative of the Secretary of State or at the request of the Local Government. I do not wish to raise any racial question at all. At the same time, I am anxious to know whether applications have been received from Indian lady graduates for appointments and if so whether they have received any consideration from the department."

[23rd March 1922]

The hon. Rao Bahadur A. P. PATRO :—"In regard to the policy of reorganization, it is quite premature for me to say anything. I have received the report from the Director of Public Instruction, and I have myself a scheme worked out. We have to collaborate before we can announce to the Council or to the public what the definite lines of reorganization are."

Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—"I do not want to carry on this discussion at a disadvantage to the hon. the Minister. I withdraw the motion so that the question may be given proper attention."

Motion 538.

Diwan Bahadur M. KRISHNAN NAYAR :—"Sir, I beg to make the following motion :—

538. *To omit the provision for 8 out of the 13 assistant inspectors of schools and the provision for 60 out of 217 supervisors of elementary schools.*

"In the budget for the year 1922-23, there are 13 assistant inspectors provided for. I want to omit the provision for 8 out of these 13 assistant inspectors. Then again, there is provision for 217 supervisors. Out of these, I wish to delete the provision for sixty supervisors."

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—"Before he proceeds further I would point out to the hon. Member that he has not told us what amount he desires to omit."

Diwan Bahadur M. KRISHNAN NAYAR :—"I found a difficulty in giving the amount. You will be pleased to note that with reference to the assistant inspectors the total amount provided is Rs. 29,700. They are on a time-scale of pay 250—25—50—50—800. Similarly the supervisors also are on a time-scale of pay. So, I found it difficult to make a calculation ; so I did not give it."

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—"I cannot admit a budget motion which does not say what the amount is that is proposed to be omitted. I really cannot allow it. What hon. Members should do in such cases is to give an amount roughly and leave it to the Government to correct the amount if it is wrong."

The hon. Rao Bahadur A. P. PATRO :—"It is too late now."

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—"He can do it now."

Diwan Bahadur M. KRISHNAN NAYAR :—"Thanks, Sir. With your permission, Sir, I would like to reduce the allotment for assistant inspectors by Rs. 10,000 and that for supervisors by Rs. 10,000. In moving this motion, I am not making any suggestion which is not made by the department itself. As a matter of fact, the department itself wanted to delete the provision for these 8 assistant inspectors and 60 supervisors. I find in the memorandum of the Finance Secretary that the proposal from the department was received too late by the Finance Department. By the time the proposals reached the Finance Department, the budget had already been prepared. So it was not possible to cut out this. Mr. Moir says—

'Proposals have been received for holding in abeyance eight posts of assistant inspectors and sixty posts of supervisors, but the corrections have not been carried out in the estimates as they were received too late.'

"The old difference between the proposals of the department and mine is, that the department wants to keep these appointments in abeyance while

23rd March 1922]

[Mr. M. Krishnan Nayar]

I want them to be deleted. That is the only difference. Apparently, they do not want to fill in these appointments during 1922-23. I do not want that these should stand, seeing that there is no need at all."

The hon. Rao Bahadur A. P. PATRO:—"Sir, from the footnote at the bottom of page 151, it will be seen that the figure given in the budget 'excludes, the pay of six posts kept in abeyance under G.Os. No. 1165, Home (Education), dated 24th September 1919, and No. 1426, Home (Education), dated 4th December 1920. So it will be seen that the figure 13 in the budget is an actual provision for only seven. The remaining posts have been absorbed owing to the creation of seven inspectors in the Indian Educational Service. Of these seven, one is deputed to Coorg. The real provision for the Madras Educational Service is in respect of only six assistant inspectors. Then it may also be mentioned that eight posts of assistant inspectors though in the Madras Educational Service are really in the subordinate educational service. The posts are kept in abeyance instead of completely eliminating them pending the reorganization of the department which is under contemplation, when most of the people from the Madras Educational Service would be placed in charge of districts. Therefore it is premature for the department to make up its mind now to delete the provision in view of the reorganization. After the reorganization question is settled, we can take up the question of eliminating these posts. Until that is done, I would request the House to sanction the allotment as it is now."

Diwan Bahadur M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—"Having regard to the statement made by my hon. Friend that he would keep in abeyance the question of eliminating these offices pending the reorganization of the department, I do not like to press the motion. If the House will permit me to withdraw the motion, I shall do so with pleasure."

The motion was by leave withdrawn.

Motion 539.

12-45 p.m.

The following motion was not made.

Rao Bahadur T. A. RAMALINGA CHETTIYAR:—

539. *To reduce the allotment of Rs. 1,42,830 for supervisors of elementary schools by Rs. 5,000.*

Motion 540.

Mr. K. PRABHAKARAN TAMPAN:—"Sir, I beg to make the following motion:—

540. *To reduce the allotment of Rs. 67,700 provided for inspectors' and inspectresses' establishments by Rs. 5,000.*

"Those of us who are interested in educational matters know we have got at present too many inspectors of schools. There was a time when there were only four or five circles for inspector of schools for the whole Presidency. We have now one inspector practically for each district. The salary of the inspectors is a non-votable item and my aim in bringing forward a resolution of this kind is to reduce their number. I will even go to the extent of saying that the cadre of inspectors of schools may be abolished altogether.

"Sir, I knew as a student what sort of inspection these people were conducting. As the manager of high school, I happen to know what precious little work they are doing at the time of the annual inspection. And

[Mr. K. Prabhakaran Tampan] [23rd March 1922]

then, Sir, I have a couple of friends among the inspectors and I know what an easy time of it they are having. One thing they did was to check the accounts of the schools. Now that the department requires a qualified auditor's certificate to be submitted along with the financial statement of each year, they might be relieved of this work. The inspection of the registers does not take much time and can very well be done by a less costly agency, if required. One other work, the most important, though, I am afraid, they are the least qualified for it, is the general supervision including the teaching of special subjects. These officers are graduates specialized in one subject only and naturally cannot be expected to have even an elementary knowledge of other subjects. A History graduate can have no notion of how mathematics must be taught; nor can a Chemistry graduate handle History or Botany unless he undergoes a special training in those subjects. Unfortunately specialization is begun from the lowest classes of these schools and it passes my comprehension how our inspectors can give a leading to the teachers. According to my opinion the best agency for this work is a non-official body consisting of three or four headmasters of schools who may be deputed to inspect all schools in a particular circle once in two or three years. They will be able to do more useful work than the present staff of inspectors. I believe it is time to dispense with this costly agency. With these words, I commend this motion for the consideration of the House."

The hon. Rao Bahadur A. P. PATRO:—"It will be very unfortunate that in a department where inspection is necessary in order to see that the schools are maintained up to the standard and the educational rules are properly enforced, that the travelling allowance should be reduced. When we give grants to those institutions, they are given under certain conditions and it is necessary to see that those conditions have been fulfilled. The hon. Member Mr. Tampan is suggesting that the inspecting officers do not go into the matter of real inspection, namely, whether the standard of education is kept up properly, whether a particular subject is taught on modern methods or whether they are not at all attended to but that, on the other hand, they are going into the accounts of the schools to judge whether the schools are properly maintained or not. Of course, there have been complaints. The departmental heads will be glad to inquire into the specific instances that are brought to the notice of Government, and I am aware of the defects that Mr. Prabhakaran Tampan pointed out. They will be rectified immediately, and I hope such are very few, namely, the inspecting officers instead of attending to the real efficiency of the schools merely satisfy themselves with examining the accounts. But the House will agree with me that they may do that work in exceptional cases. Generally, the inspectors are doing very useful work, and it is necessary that they should be touring constantly from firka to firka, from taluk to taluk, that cannot be done by sitting at the headquarters, and it is absolutely impossible for them to write up reports sitting in one place. Therefore they have to visit these places frequently and see that the standard is maintained and for this purpose the travelling allowance is absolutely necessary to the educational department. These inspectors have to travel a certain number of days and maintain certain standard of inspection. Therefore, hon. Members would see that this grant is necessary."

The Rev. W. MESTON:—"Sir, this is a proposition with which I have no sympathy. I have always felt that the University and State funds spent on

23rd March 1922]

[Mr. W. Meston]

the inspecting staff was one of the best investments that could be made for the advancement of education, because the whole of the present improved condition depends on that. We have all experienced what the hon. the Mover has referred to, namely, the strain which the school management is put to at the visit of each Inspector. It takes perhaps a month for the school to recover after each Inspection. But that goes back to many years ago. Conditions have changed tremendously within the last 20 years. I can attest to this from my personal knowledge. The number of Inspectors has been so greatly increased that the schools are now really benefited by the way in which this whole educational policy is carried on. As at present the investment of State funds in this direction should be continued."

Mr. K. PRABHAKARAN TAMPAN:—"Neither the arguments of the hon. the Minister nor those of other members have been able to convince me that the expenditure is necessary. I, however, withdraw the motion."

The motion was by leave withdrawn.

Motion 541.

Rao Bahadur A. S. KRISHNA RAO PANTULU:—"Sir, I beg to make the following motion:—

541. *To reduce the allotment of Rs. 7,06,335 for general inspection by Rs. 50,000.*

"Sir, with the increase in the number of schools it is absolutely essential that there should be an effective system of inspection. It is not on the ground that there should not be the necessary inspection, that I raise this question. But I feel, Sir, that we must have a less costly machinery of inspection. It is that aspect of the question that I wish to place on this occasion before this House and before the hon. the Minister for Education. There have been various changes made from time to time regarding the inspecting machinery. And there has been under consideration a scheme to appoint one inspector of schools for every district, to dispense with the assistant inspectors of schools, to appoint deputy inspectors and do away with the sub-assistant inspectors and supervisors of schools. Before the hon. the Minister for Education gives his approval to such a scheme, it is absolutely essential for him to consider whether in the present circumstances of the country we can afford to have such a costly machinery for inspection and whether it is necessary to have such a machinery. Most of the work in the districts regarding education relates to primary education. The district educational councils have come into existence, which are expected to do all the work in that direction. I put it to the Council whether such a costly machinery is necessary for the purpose of organizing education in the districts. No doubt special arrangements are necessary for special high schools and colleges; but ordinarily it is enough to have one of the grade of assistant inspector to be in charge of that work."

"Secondly, Sir, with regard to the elementary schools, I think it necessary to consider that there are now proposals for altering the curriculum so as to satisfy the local needs and requirements, so as to satisfy the opinions of persons for whose benefit it is intended. Men of the qualification of supervisors of schools, provided they are given some more incentive to work and provided some better men are recruited for the post will be enough, in the place of the highly-paid deputy inspectors of schools. It is because such proposals have been under consideration and the hon.

[Mr. A. S. Krishna Rao Pantulu] [23rd March 1922]

Member Mr. Krishnan Nayar has just moved and withdrawn a motion for cutting eight assistant inspectors of schools and 60 supervisors of elementary schools, I think it is necessary that this question is carefully examined before it is accepted.

“You will find from the Financial Statement presented to us that ‘the provision made in the current year’s budget for additional inspectors and sub-assistant inspectors and for the transfer of certain posts from the Subordinate to the Madras Educational Service has not been utilized. Proposals have been received for holding in abeyance eight posts of assistant inspectors and sixty posts of supervisors, but the corrections have not been carried out in the estimates as they were received too late.’ And again it is said, ‘the following schemes which form part of progressive schemes of advance have been cut out :—(1) Appointment of additional inspectors and sub-assistant inspectors and inspectresses.’

“Sir, if we could have large additional income to the credit of our provincial finance, we could have very costly inspectors for each district and also highly-paid deputy inspectors and do away with the assistant and sub-assistant inspectors and supervisors. But if we are alive to the fact that we are short of funds for carrying on various useful objects and that we can have effective inspection by means of supervisors and sub-assistant and assistant inspectors, I request that the proposals which have been hitherto under contemplation should not be hastily given effect to. Feeling that the financial condition needs more close scrutiny, my own impression is that we have now arrived at a stage in our finance when we must think of trying an experiment on much cheaper and more economic lines than hitherto. When we realize our condition to be most critical, is this not the time to think of reducing the expenditure on this costly establishment?”

The hon. Rao Bahadur A. P. PATRO :—“The hon. the Mover has pointed out that the question is one whether there should be a reduction in the number of supervisors or whether there should be a better staff of sub-assistant inspectors. There are two schools of thought in this matter holding opposite views. At one sitting of the advisory committee we had a discussion of the subject, and the two views were presented to the Government on this matter. The opinion was divided. We want to see how far it is possible to reconcile the two opinions, or to carry out one or the other, that which seems to be more efficient.”

Rao Bahadur A. S. KRISHNA RAO PANTULU :—“I do not wish to press it further.”

The motion was by leave withdrawn.

Motion 542.

Mr. C. RAMALINGA REDDI :—“Sir, I beg to make the following motion :—

542. *To omit the allotment of Rs. 8,500 for Sanskrit education.*

“Mr. President, this motion has been tabled for the sake of eliciting information. I should like to know what the total number of schools in the department is and how many of these are in receipt of grants from Government and are subject to the supervision of the State. The amount provided is now Rs. 8,500. I am given to understand, though I cannot vouchsafe for the accuracy of the figures, that the total number of Sanskrit schools is

23rd March 1922]

[Mr. C. Ramalinga Reddi]

well over 700, and of this number those that are within the control of the department are only about 75 or 80, and it is for these 75 or 80 schools that the sum of Rs. 8,500 is to be provided. The vast majority of these schools may have their own reasons for refusing to come under the department and are doing their work absolutely independent of the departmental regulations. I have nothing to do with them at present. But with regard to the schools which are aided, one or two questions of interest arise and I want to have light from the Minister thereon. One is whether they are institutions of what I may call a sectarian character where the study is pursued on dogmatic lines. The second is whether admissions are restricted to particular castes. I am all in favour of encouraging Sanskrit education for the sake of its cultural value and the light it throws on our ancient civilization. I very much doubt if dogmatic or quasi-religious instruction in classics is one of the things for which State funds could be appropriated. If we are to do that in the case of the Hindus I am sure our Muhammadan friends would not like it and it is sure to create some heart-burning. It is therefore for the sake of knowing the views of my hon. Friend that this motion has been tabled. In the reorganization that he is contemplating I trust he will try to bring in Sanskrit schools within the department, so that our Sanskrit studies may not follow the old dogmatic and sectarian lines."

The hon. Rao Bahadur A. P. PATRO :—"The number of aided Sanskrit colleges is twelve and aided schools twenty-one. The total number of schools including the unaided was 269 in 1920-21. The system obtaining in these schools and colleges is non-sectarian. One college is specializing in grammar, another in Vedanta and a third in another school of philosophy and in that way the colleges are maintained. The schools also include a general culture of studies and are not run on sectarian lines."

Rao Bahadur T. NAMBERUMAL CHETTI :—"Sir, I want to oppose the motion and say a few words if you will allow me to do so. In the course of discussion on the demands, I have noticed Mr. Ramalinga Reddiyar and others advocating reductions under various headings by lakhs. But I was rather surprised that this trifling amount of Rs. 8,500 should have attracted their attention and that they should have wanted this amount to be cut down."

Mr. C. RAMALINGA REDDI :—"On a point of personal explanation, Sir, I have already disclaimed any intention to have the allotment deleted. As I said already, I moved the motion only for the sake of securing a certain information."

Rao Bahadur T. NAMBERUMAL CHETTI :—"I thought their object in moving this reduction must be due to one of three causes, first apathy for the spread of Sanskrit education, or second that Sanskrit education is purely beneficial only to a certain sect of the community or third that the supervising staff is entirely Brahman so that if the sum is not granted, the Brahman may be shut out. As regards the first point Mr. Ramalinga Reddiyar said that it has his full sympathy. As regards the second that a certain section alone is being benefited by Sanskrit education I must say that it is not so, because members of the depressed classes Thiyyas and others also are coming to these Sanskrit schools to study. In this connexion I would say that it is only a decade or two ago that a revival of Sanskrit study commenced, the impetus to it being given by Mr. Krishnamachariyar, M.A., the veteran Sanskrit scholar.

[Mr. T. Namberumal Chetti]

[23rd March 1922]

All honor to him. Through his influence more than 60 or 70 Sanskrit schools and colleges were started in various centres all more or less under private management a few being under district boards. Several of my own community who till recently set apart funds for feasts and festivals, and, for providing for gold and silver *vahanams* in temples, are now diverting portions of such funds for Sanskrit education. The Yeteendra Pravana Chetti charities maintain a Sanskrit College at Sriperumbudur. Kakiman Adikesavulu Chetti Charities maintain a school in the city. Yet another in Triplicane is maintained by Kalavala Kannan Chetti's Charities, at the opening ceremony of which our worthy President took a leading part. Above all, the Venkataramana Sanskrit College in Mylapore which is doing splendid work and turning out Siromani pandits year after year is lending lustre to the spread of Sanskrit education. I hear also there are several schools in Malabar started by Jenmies in which Muhammadan boys and boys of the backward classes are receiving Sanskrit education. It is therefore clear that these are not sectarian institutions. Now I come to the third cause. Sir, it is to supervise these various institutions that receive Government grants that this small sum of Rs. 8,500 is provided in the budget. An attempt to cut this down will surely check the spread of education already started and check also the bringing into life of new institutions. If in the mind of the mover the party spirit is obtaining sway, viz., that the supervision is being done by Brahmans and therefore it should be discouraged, I consider, Sir, that until such time as there are Sanskrit pandits amongst non-Brahmans such a spirit may be allowed to rest. Year after year it is open to the House to vote for this expenditure and when time is ripe for non-Brahmans to take up the supervision, communal interests may then be brought up for recognition. With these few words I oppose the motion."

MR. C. RAMALINGA REDDI :—"My hon. Friend having prepared a speech I did not think it right to interrupt him by any disclaimer or personal explanation, which might have produced a serious effect upon his speech. If the effect of Sanskrit culture is to attribute motives of that kind to those with whom they might differ, I for one would be sorry to see Sanskrit education spreading. However, I may say that my hon. Friend has been misled, and I do not think there is any need for me to repudiate the kind of communal or sectarian motives that he has attributed to me or to the colleagues that joined me in tabling this motion. I was indeed very glad to hear that in all these colleges admission is open to all communities."

MR. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—"I thought he was rising to a point of personal explanation."

MR. C. RAMALINGA REDDI :—"I was going to say that admission is open to all classes of students and as for the supervisors being all Brahmans, I can assure my hon. Friend that I did not know that that was so. I thank him for having told me that; and as for the motive attributed to me, i.e., that I was trying to subvert the inspecting staff by cutting down the provision by means of this motion, I may at once say that I am entirely for the spreading of Sanskrit education, but I am opposed to too many dogmatic institutions for reasons which I have never made a secret. I do not subscribe to the doctrine that you should have more Sanskrit colleges and schools for spreading Sanskrit education; for Sanskrit education is liberally patronised by the Madras University, and it has a very honoured and important place in the course of college studies. The University have

23rd March 1922]

[Mr. C. Ramalinga Reddi]

devised Siromani and other grades. I am entirely in sympathy with the encouragement of Sanskrit education, but not the kind of education that would bring about a false spirit in the minds of the peoples. If such an education should be provided for and if the charges were to be borne by the community to which my hon. Friend belongs, it is entirely their look out and I have no objection, but what I do object to is that State funds should be spent on such institutions. Anyway, since I know that this is not the case at all, I have no desire to press this motion to a division, and I request the leave of the House to withdraw it."

MR. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—" I perfectly agree with what my hon. Friend, Mr. Ramalinga Reddi said, i.e., that when Government give grants they should not give grants to institutions which work on sectarian lines. I do not think that the grant made to Sanskrit colleges is really very much considering the provision for the European schools for which we voted the other day. I think therefore that the same principle should be applied to all Sanskrit schools and colleges including the National Premier College in Madras."

The motion was by leave withdrawn.

Motions 543 to 551.

The following motions were not made :—

MR. T. ARUMAINATHA PILLAI :—

543. *To omit the allotment of Rs. 8,500 for Sanskrit education.*

Rao Bahadur P. C. ETIRAJULU NAYUDU :—

544. *To omit the allotment of Rs. 8,500 for Sanskrit education.*

MR. O. TANIKACHALA CHETTIYAR :—

545. *To omit the allotment of Rs. 8,500 for Sanskrit education.*

MR. W. VIJAYARAGHAVA MUDALIYAR :—

546. *To omit the allotment of Rs. 8,500 for Sanskrit education.*

MR. S. ARPUDASWAMI UDAIYAR :—

547. *To reduce the allotment of Rs. 13,09,400 by Rs. 24,000.*

MR. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—

548. *To reduce the allotment of Rs. 13,09,400 for inspection by Rs. 100.*

Diwan Bahadur M. RAMACHANDRA RAO PANTULU :—

549. *To reduce the total allotment of Rs. 1,40,01,188 for education by Rs. 100.*

MR. B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU :—

550. *To reduce the allotment of Rs. 1,40,01,188 for education by Rs. 5,000.*

MR. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—

551. *To reduce the allotment of Rs. 1,40,01,188 for education by Rs. 100.*

Motion 552.

Diwan Bahadur R. VENKATARAMNAM NAYUDU :—" Mr. President, I beg to make the following motion :—

552. *To reduce the total allotment of Rs. 1,40,01,188 for education by Rs. 100.*

[Mr. R. Venkataratnam Nayudu] [23rd March 1922]

"I should at the outset acknowledge that the suggestion for a resolution of this type I owe to an observation that you, Sir, were pleased to make during last year's debate on the budget. Therefore, I believe it is altogether superfluous for me expressly to disown any intention either to show up an old and valued friend like the hon. the Minister for Education or to show myself off at his expense. I should, in fact, if I might, state, in a word of acknowledgment, that so far as I am able to understand he has been endeavouring, alike in the matter of improving the organization and in the direction of amplifying the finances, to pursue a policy of progress with a zeal and a steadfastness which, when the results come to be known, will entitle him to the thanks of all friends of education. (Applause.)

1-15 p.m. "At the same time, Sir, while appreciating the work of those that are engaged in the field, it may be open, I believe, to a humble member of this House, to indicate certain drawbacks and shortcomings the removal of which is desirable in the best interests of the educational advancement of the country. To a few of these drawbacks, adversely bearing upon the educational system, I shall invite the attention of this honourable House. I believe that they deserve close and prompt attention, if the system is not to get out of date.

"Sir, the first question I should like to raise is whether our programme of administration provides for adequate time, thought and energy being given to this work, in a measure commensurate with its paramount importance. About 75 years ago, the Governor-General of the day, the first Lord Hardinge, observed that for all the ills that India 'is heir to', the first remedy is education, the second remedy is education, and the third remedy is education. Sir, if education is thus to be the panacea for the untold evils which India has through generations suffered from, then I submit that no amount of time devoted to this work and no measure of attention bestowed upon it will ever be considered too much for the purpose. When, however, we remember that under the existing scheme of administration this all-important department is, to use a homely expression, bundled up with three other big departments and their united burden is cast upon the back of a single Minister, one may well ask whether the department merits no better treatment. On the other hand, there is the strange fact that somehow, perhaps more out of considerations of administrative convenience than from any intrinsic fitness, the field of work is broken up into four or five sections, and these several sections are given in charge of four, if not five, members of the Government. That, I submit, is a method not very conducive to an intelligent treatment of the department as an organic whole, as an articulated system in which the various parts fit into one another in effective co-ordination. Taking these two points together, would it not be a more eligible arrangement if as many as possible of these different sections, now distributed over a number of departments, were put together and placed in the charge of one Minister who might, as a set-off, be relieved of one or more of those departments which are now entrusted to him?

"Next comes the consideration that education is now a transferred subject. To say that education is a transferred subject may sound like a trite observation. All the same, it may not be superfluous or amiss to ask ourselves what we understand by a subject being transferred. To me, Sir, it denotes that the subject has been transferred from the category of an administrative department to the category of a national problem. Therefore, it seems to

23rd March 1922] [Mr. R. Venkataratnam Nayudu]

me that a transferred subject ought to devolve upon every Member of this representative House special responsibility as regards its effective administration. It will be a great mistake to fancy that the head of the department alone is responsible, and we may be content to be his critics. We are bound to contribute our share to the reconstruction of the system, each after his own lights. In this connection, Sir, I shall, if I may without causing offence, refer to one grave anomaly. In my judgment it is a paradox, if not an irony, that in a so-called transferred department there should be a large set of non-transferred items, items which we cannot vote upon, items which are proof to our 'voice'. With the partiality of a school-master for an illustration, I shall say it looks as though a certain plane has been declared the village common to which all the recognized inhabitants have the right of access; but as one enters one finds a plot here and a plot there fenced round by barbed iron-wire with the warning notice, 'Trespassers will be prosecuted.' That, I think, is a serious defect which calls for speedy readjustment, if—digressing for just half a minute, I might say—diarchy is not to be pronounced a failure. Sir, I am not so much concerned with the pay or the *personnel*; what I do note to be a grave anomaly is that those who are thus individually insulated become prime movers in the administration. In actual result I believe, if I may once again draw upon an illustration, it creates situations not much unlike one of those conventional cosmopolitan dinners, with high caste caterers, to which one at times invited. One goes in great expectations of social amenities, but one is returns with a painful consciousness of patronizing condescension; while during the function there is a repeated manifestation, in the relations between the caterer and the catered, of a large measure of passive resistance (Laughter). Sir, for this reason, in the best interests of the department, this maladjustment should be speedily set right.

"But a far more vital question is the one that, when a department has been declared 'transferred,' it is thereby placed wholly under what I call 'indigenous initiative.' As the Braidwood Lecturer last year said, in the ship of State 'the motive power in the engine-room should hereafter be Indian.' (Hear. hear.) It is this initiative that is sadly wanting. If again I may take an illustration, with the partiality of the son of a military officer, from the Army, I shall recall that little incident which was reported some time back as having occurred in Mesopotamia: the enemy had turned their guns upon our men, the latter desired to reply; hence some of the sepoys went up to the subadar and said, '*Kevun, Subadar Sahib, goli chalayn*'?—'Well, Subadar Sahib, shall we open fire?', and the answer was '*Zara sabar karo, lieutenant se puchleyn*,' 'Wait a minute, let us ask the lieutenant.' This subadar, who had perhaps put in more years of service in the army than the lieutenant had seen years of existence, had to take his instructions from the youthful lieutenant before he could do the elementary duty of responding to the enemy's fire. (Hear. hear.) It is this utter lack of a chance for initiative work that has stunted the growth of indigenous talent. Therefore, I urge, Sir, Indian intellect ought to count; Indian experience ought to receive credit; the engine should move with Indian power, though the watch and the outlook be the joint duty of the Indian and the European. That is the last point, Sir, on which, if I have any time left, I should like to lay special stress. As the hon. Sir Ashutosh Mukherjee, the Vice-Chancellor of the Calcutta University, perhaps the most illustrious exponent living of the Indian university system of education, observed only the other day, the

[Mr. R. Venkataratnam Nayudu] [23rd March 1922]

Indian universities have not been able to take root in the life of the nation because they have remained exotics. Perhaps my hon. friend, the Member for the University, will remark that this direful consequence is due to the fact that the University has not been allowed to exercise its autonomous powers. But I venture to think, Sir, that autonomy is a mere relative term. Autonomy is good or bad according to the conditions under which it works. Unless it is environed by democratic circumstances and influenced by a democratic spirit, autonomy may stand divided by a very thin partition from autocracy. It is this autocratic exercise of autonomy that has put the Indian universities out of joint with the life of the nation (Hear, hear). It is, therefore, high time that not merely the Indian universities but the whole system of education was put in vital touch with the living, throbbing work-a-day existence of the Indian nation. (Applause.) Here thorough, radical reform is imperative. If undue attention has hitherto been given to only one type of education, if, as is hinted in the report of the Calcutta University Commission, high schools have been mere nurseries for the University, need we wonder that the whole system has virtually remained outside the current of national life? High schools ought to be treated as a self-contained whole; the education imparted in them ought to be ample enough in range and varied enough in quality to befit a person to enter life at its close. There is a host of other points which arise as we face this issue of a system of education under Indian initiative. But time forbids my setting them out. With the permission of the House, I shall just refer to two of these points. Firstly, the available resources and the method of apportionment should be so regulated as to serve the needs of all sections of the people inhabiting this presidency. Hitherto unfortunately it has gone mostly in favour of one or two particular communities, while others have been left out in the dark; I do not say from any deliberate malicious motive, but mainly because those that had the ordering of things in their hands knew no better. But that practice must end; not only equal but proportionate attention should be accorded, not only equal but commensurate facilities should be afforded, to all communities (Hear, hear); to every community according to its own aims and needs. Just as the doctor bestows the closest care upon a case which is the most serious, even so the educator shall give the largest and most sympathetic attention, as due of right, to those communities which are very backward in education. (Hear, hear.) Thus it is, to come to a specific instance, that I hold that we shall be repaying a long standing debt of obligation to the depressed classes, if we make the most liberal provision for their education in the budgets of this Presidency. (Applause).

“Then, Sir, the second point is that even as in legal definitions ‘he’ is said to include ‘she’, we seem to fancy that a system of education that works well for boys ought to fit in quite as well for girls. That notion ought to change. Not only as the Calcutta University Commission’s report has told us, but also as the Government of India have stated in one of their Resolutions, I believe in the year 1919, there ought to be formulated a differentiated system for our girls and women, a system that is more in accord with their tastes and aptitudes, with their outlook on life, with their station and duties in after years. That is another object on which we shall do well to concentrate our attention for a while. Here, again, I shall plead that the available resources, time, money and energy be equally distributed among girls and women of all communities. It is sad to recall

1-30 p.m.

23rd March 1922] [Mr. R. Venkataratnam Nayudu]

that not long ago, perhaps only a couple of years back, an official document owned, as regards a certain home or hostel for girls, that out of 87 inmates so many as 75 were receiving free not only education but also boarding, lodging, books and all the other necessities, notwithstanding the fact, as that document itself admitted, that several of them belonged to families that could afford to pay but declined to do so. Such misdirected liberality should cease in the true interests of the favoured community itself; and the available facilities should be open in a free and well-graduated manner to all sections of the Indian community.

“The last subject to which, with your permission, Sir, I shall draw the very special attention of this House, is the plight of us poor schoolmasters. Let not this House be deceived by the glamour of the ‘fat salaries’ that are drawn at the top of the system by some of the Government servants. As to that, I hold that he who needs a ‘fat salary’ in this department is an interloper. In consonance with the traditional beliefs and the age-long sentiments of this land, we have always associated a teacher with plain living and simple surroundings. But it is one thing to practice plain living; it is quite another to be put on short commons. And whatever might be the good fortune of the few celestials, it must be confessed of the whole host of subordinate teachers that from year’s end to year’s end they are put on short commons. Is that fair or humane; or shall we not realize that money spent on education is undoubtedly money wisely employed? Notwithstanding the remark made yesterday by the hon. the Finance Member that this was a much-favoured department, I beg leave to submit with the utmost humility that this department is not receiving even a moiety of what is really its due. I may for a moment borrow the language of the fable to which the hon. the Home Member alluded the other day, the fable of Menenius Agrippa in *Coriolanus* and declare that we teachers may, without immodesty, claim that it is we that supply the general food which all do live upon, we are the store-house and the shop of the whole body. Will this hon. House, in recognition of our humble services, say, ‘you grind for all, you furnish the flour for all, and you be content with the bran’? Shall I not pray that ours may be valued, as it ought to be voted, really the most productive of all departments? May it be realized, in the language of the Bible, that whatever is spent on this department is like bread cast upon the waters which in due course will yield a return ten-fold and even hundred-fold in value.” (Applause.)

The hon. Rao Bahadur A. P. PATRO :—“Sir, after the most instructive, eloquent and illuminating address from the hon. Member, it is not for me to reply to all that has been said; and I whole-heartedly agree with him in all that he said. But I take exception to one, namely, where he referred to me personally. I do not wish to appropriate for myself all the credit that he has conferred on me. I have in this matter the energetic co-operation and advice of the head of the department. I have in the Education Adviser one who is always in sympathy for the progress of education movement in this country. I have pressed with him very difficult matters, which is no doubt against some of his views; but he loyally carried out the policy and worked out the policy as directed by the Government. I am sure that with the co-operation of the Council in the schemes that we have begun, God-willing, we may be able to show a better record at the next budget meeting. We are perhaps in the beginning of the question and we are paying our close and honest attention to the educational improvement and advancement of the province

[Mr. A. P. Patro]

[23rd March 1922]

But, as I said, with your co-operation, Sirs, in voting sufficient money we may be able to advance all the proposals which are most required for the educational advancement of our province. Sir, I agree specially in the matter of the standard of education for boys and girls. It is only the day before yesterday I read the Government of India order and the literature connected with the subject. I am sure that, as I collect and gather information more and more, I will be able to evolve a system which would be different from the present system of education between boys and girls. But, as you know, these matters take time and it cannot be done in one month or two. We have to gather the materials and place them before experts for discussion and, after receiving advice and guidance in the matter, we must make up our minds as to what the particular system might be that would be suitable and how far finances would support the scheme, and then launch it for practical work. All these things would take time; but I may assure you that I will leave no stone unturned in order to see to the system which has been most useful and instructive and which will tend to the progress of the country is carefully examined and brought to successful working."

The motion was by leave withdrawn.

Motion 553.

Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—"Sir, I beg to make the following motion :—

553. *To reduce the allotment of Rs. 2,15,500 for examinations by Rs. 100.*

"Sir, I wanted to refer to the question of the Special Test examinations in connexion with this motion. It is well known that the University for some time past have been having the examinations in regard to several of their courses twice a year. The Law College examination, the Intermediate examination and the B.A. examinations are held twice a year. I think the same principle should be extended to the case of the Special Test examinations as well. As at present, candidates can appear only once a year and that means considerable hardship in the case of the subordinates for whom a success in this examination is necessary for promotion. If, unfortunately, they fail in one year, they have to wait for another year to appear and pass this examination for their promotions. In the meanwhile, there may be vacancies and they may be barred from getting any of them. The Government will not at all be losing anything by introducing the change suggested by me. I find, as a matter of fact, that, in all these examinations the Government has been gaining money rather than losing. So that even from a financial point of view it would be a paying concern and the relief it affords to the poor subordinates would be very great indeed."

The hon. Rao Bahadur A. P. PATRO :—"That is a matter which is already engaging the attention of the Government and I think the matter is before the Finance Department. Orders will soon issue favourably."

The motion was then by leave withdrawn.

Motion 554.

The following motion was not made :—

Mr. B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU :—

"554. *To reduce the allotment of 143.10 lakhs by Rs. 10,000.*

23rd March 1922]

Motion 555.

The following motion standing in the name of Dr. P. Subbarayan was with the permission of the House moved by Rao Bahadur T. NAMBERUMAL CHETTI :—

555. *To reduce the allotment of Rs. 143.10 lakhs by Rs. 10,000.*

In doing so, he said :—“ Sir, I wish to draw attention of the members of this House to the inadequate provision made for the maintenance of the Oriental Library of Manuscripts. In an obscure corner and under a still more obscure heading ‘miscellaneous’ some Rs. 10,000 is provided for the next year. The revised estimate for 1921-22 was reduced to Rs. 23,000 from Rs. 27,000 budgeted. For 1922-23 it is further reduced to Rs. 10,000. The establishment alone must be Rs. 12,000 per annum. Some details regarding the working of the department will be of interest. This consists of three sections : (1) Permanent, (2) Peripatetic and (3) Publication. The first section denotes its time to the acquisition and preservation of oriental manuscripts and books in various languages. The second denotes its time in visiting various districts and collecting manuscripts, and the third the Publication section does the printing and publishing of unpublished manuscripts under the name of ‘The Madras Government Oriental Series.’ It may be interesting to learn that the first section, the Publication section, has published so far 24 volumes of descriptive catalogue of Sanskrit manuscripts and 5 volumes of other languages. Printing and publishing them lie before them, a huge task.

“ The Peripatetic section secured 500 manuscripts during the year. It is reported that several books were lost in the recent
1.45 p.m. Malabar disturbances.

“ The third or Publication section have ready for publication two rare manuscripts and there are also 200 more available, some of which are—

Commentary on Arthashastra.
Commentary on Natya Sastra.
Brihaspathi Suthra.

“ There are also others of rare value. If the Publication section started so recently as in 1920 is to be abolished as it is likely to be, I am afraid the world will be deprived of seeing rare books gathered under one roof at considerable expense and trouble. If the Mysore Government did not publish this Arthashastra, a rare work of which there had been only one manuscript available, our Finance Member would not have been able to quote texts.

“ The Madras Oriental Library is, I understand, the best and biggest in India. The other Government institutions are—

Bombay Government Sanskrit Series.
Mysore Government Sanskrit Series.
Travancore Government Sanskrit Series.
Gaikwar Oriental Series.
Srinagar Sanskrit Series.
Benares Sanskrit Series.

“ There are also three private institutions—

Pandit Series.
Kavya Mala Series.
Anandasrama Series.

[Mr. T. Namberumal Chetti]

[23rd March 1922]

“All these bear no comparison to the Madras Oriental Library. This institution has been preparing manuscripts and sending them to Indian and foreign scholars. Distinguished scholars like Dr. Thomas, the Librarian to the India Office, have made a very good mention of the institution. At the Oriental Conference held in Poona in 1919, two hundred of these rare manuscripts were exhibited. Perhaps time has come for the extinction of these activities of this library. If so, we shall be responsible to the future generations for the neglect of our sacred duty to ancient Sanskrit literature.”

The hon. Rao Bahadur A. P. PATRO:—“I quite agree with my hon. Friend in his desire to have the collection of manuscripts done by the Oriental Library and we have provided Rs. 10,000 for the purpose of purchase and collection of oriental manuscripts and for the maintenance of the staff of the library. At present, we are unable to make any more provision in the budget. If we have a prosperous year, we will be able to provide for more. But the hon. Mover simply requests the Government to do something more in the matter of the collection of manuscripts for oriental studies.”

The motion was by leave withdrawn.

The question that the Government be granted a sum not exceeding Rs. 143.10 lakhs under Demand XVI—Education (Non-European) was put and carried.

The grant was made.

The Council rose for lunch at 1.50 p.m. and re-assembled at 2.40 p.m.

DEMAND XVII—MEDICAL.

The hon. Mr. P. RAMARAYANINGAR:—“Sir, I move Demand XVII that the Government be granted Rs. 48.47 lakhs for Medical.”

Motion 556.

Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR:—“I beg to make the following motion:—

556. *To reduce the allotment of Rs. 3,70,380 for district and medical officers (12 I.M.S. and 11 Civil) by Rs. 1,000.*

“I need hardly say, Sir, that this is one of those motions for reduction under which we want explanation and information. We have heard so much of diarchy and one of our revered leaders referred to the evil of having a number of heads for practically the same department. This Medical department has got a similar peculiarity. Though the whole department is under one Minister, some of the officers in that department are not subject to his control. But so far as the Indian Medical Service officers are concerned, we have heard in various parts as to the various attempts that are being made as to their recruitment in India as in England and also as to the way in which the officers in India and those from England should be controlled by the Minister in charge. We all know that the Medical department is one of the departments where there should be no curtailment under any circumstances whatever, but the grant should be increased year after year. So far as this particular service is concerned, the last year's budget shows that there were 24 officers whereas there are only 23 this year.

23rd March 1922] [Mr. C. V. Venkataramana Ayyangar]

"One other circumstance that requires explanation is this: whereas there were only ten Indian Medical Service officers last year, the number has been increased to twelve this year. It is therefore necessary exactly to know under what circumstances the recruitment has taken place during the current year and the circumstances under which the recruitment is to take place next year. This is certainly one of those departments where indianization can be easily made and where it is absolutely necessary. We have heard of funny stories where people who were not acquainted with the language of the patients had to make signs to understand the grievances of the patients and sometimes such a treatment by signs have led to serious calamities. Therefore, Sir, if there is any department where the officers should be Indian, I think this should be one of them. I do not at all mean to say anything against some of the higher officers who are experts. But our experience also goes to show that so far as operations are concerned many Indian assistant surgeons some of whom have risen as civil surgeons are in no way inferior to the Indian Medical Service Officers in every department of work. Anyhow, we need hardly say that it is not at all our intention to send away men who are already there bag and baggage. But when you fill up the places that are likely to become vacant, this question must be considered.

"I may also refer to the point that the salaries of Indian Medical Service officers are also non-votable; for instance, there are the officers who are full-time professors in the Medical College. I have given notice of another motion on that point but I do not think it is worth while to spend the time of the Council by making both the motions as they are allied to each other. I hope the hon. the Minister will be pleased to give us also information as to whether it is found necessary to have full-timed Indian Medical Service professors in the Medical College for which very fat salaries are given, and whether these places cannot be given to people who are already having private practice and who are probably Indians. These are the few points on which I will be glad to have explanation and information, and I am sure the hon. the Minister will be kind enough to furnish it."

The hon. Mr. P. RAMARAYANINGAR:—"Mr. President, when I had notice of the resolution, I was indeed at a loss to know what the underlying idea of the resolution was. But from the speech of the hon. Mover I gather that the resolution is intended to elicit a declaration of the policy of the Government regarding the nationalization of the Medical Service.

"Sir, Mr. Venkataramana Ayyangar has dwelt at length on the question of indianizing the medical service. Indianization of the medical service may mean either the exclusion of Englishmen (Indian Medical Service officers) from that service or the gradual and increasing association of Indians (provincial medical officers) with the higher posts in the Medical department. If the former idea is suggested, I have no hesitation to reject the suggestion at once."

Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR:—"I clearly stated that it was only the latter that I meant."

The hon. Mr. P. RAMARAYANINGAR:—"My reason for the summary rejection of the idea of excluding the Indian Medical Service officers is that most of the well-known medical institutions in the Presidency are staffed by Indian Medical Service officers. They are doing exceedingly

[Mr. P. Ramarayaningar]

[23rd March 1922]

well and can compare with the best of the medical institutions elsewhere not only in India but also in other civilized countries. I need hardly say that we owe a deep debt of gratitude to the Indian Medical Service for introducing into the country a highly-developed system of medical relief. Sir, it will be a disaster to exclude Indian Medical Service officers from our medical service. I am glad to hear from my friend that he did not suggest that the Indian Medical Service officers should be excluded.

“Sir, so far as the indianization in the limited sense is concerned, there can be no objection to it. I have every sympathy for the suggestion to promote as many deserving provincial officers as possible to the higher posts in the medical department. This Government for the last six months have been in correspondence with the Secretary of State and the Government of India to have as many as sixteen higher posts hitherto reserved for Indian Medical Service officers thrown open to provincial men. If the Secretary of State approves of this Government's proposal, a large number of higher appointments in the medical service will be available to the deserving provincial men.

“Sir, the hon. Mover has in this connexion referred to the appointment of the Professors of the Madras Medical College from the provincial medical service. The recommendation which this Government made to the Government of India includes proposals for the appointment of some professors from among the provincial medical officers. If, as I said, the Secretary of State's sanction is accorded to the recommendation of this Government, some of the professors of the Medical College can be recruited from the provincial medical service.

“Another observation made by my hon. Friend is that the medical service is not under the Minister's entire control. I could not exactly understand the force of the observation.”

MR. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR :—“I said clearly that the whole department was under one Minister but that all the officers were not subject to his control.”

THE HON. MR. P. RAMARAYANINGAR :—“The fact that some officers are subject to dual control is due to the military exigencies and the constitutional position of the Provincial Government. If a change in the present arrangement is to be effected it can only be effected by higher authorities. Sir, I have no objection to submit the proceedings relating to the debate on this resolution to the Government of India and the Secretary of State for India.”

MR. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—“Sir, the issue under discussion is a very important one and inasmuch as the hon. the Minister has been pleased to say that he will place the proceedings of this House on this matter both before the Government of India and before the Secretary of State, I think it is but right that this question should be debated upon a little longer. As was rightly remarked, we do not object to the officers as such but we do take strong exception to the system. Whether the officers of the Indian Medical Service happen for the time being to be Europeans or Indians is a matter of no concern at all. Both would be equally costly so far as our province is concerned and the necessity for it is not at all clear. It was remarked by the Minister in Bihar, Sir, that while he had no objection to the retention of these officers, he had considerable objection to their being officers of the Indian Medical Service subject to the liability of constantly being taken away from India on military

23rd March 1922] [Mr. A. Ranganatha Mudaliyar]

duty. Now, I do not know why we should subject ourselves to such disadvantages. During the war, these officers were away from our province for a long time, and so far as I can see the medical administration in the Presidency was none the worse for it and we saved a huge sum of money. I think also that if the system is changed the effect of it will be, I am bound to say, an introduction of a larger number of Indians in the administration and it will lead also to economy.

“Turning for a moment to the three hospitals in the Presidency town itself we notice that the cost incurred in the different institutions shows extraordinary variations and perhaps I am right in saying that to some extent, these fluctuations may be traced to the fact that there is more of Indian control in one institution than in another; I am not quite positive, but it is just possible that the comparatively less expenditure in some of the institutions is due to the simple fact that one who knows the habits and tendencies of the people here is likely to understand better the needs of the people and provide for them at a minimum cost. Taking, Sir, one item, cost under diet, I find Rs. 1,45,790 was spent at the Government General Hospital, Rs. 56,960 at the Rayapuram Hospital and Rs. 17,363 at the Royapetta Hospital. Of course we have to take into consideration also the number of in-patients treated in these different hospitals, so that we may arrive at the relative cost per head. In the General Hospital the number of in-patients was 8,610, in the Rayapuram Hospital, 5,250 and in the Royapetta hospital, 2,717. The average, if it is worked out, will be found to be about Rs. 16 per head in the General Hospital, Rs. 10 in the Rayapuram Hospital and Rs. 3 in the Royapetta Hospital. Now, you see, Sir, the difference is very striking. But it may be urged that in the Government General Hospital there are a number of European in-patients treated. Even then, I fail to see the reason for the high dietary charges there and, so far as the difference between the Rayapuram and Royapetta hospitals is concerned, any such explanation is altogether out of question. There is again another item which would illustrate my point. As regards the medicines in the General Hospital Rs. 60,000 was spent, in Rayapuram hospital Rs. 46,000 and in the Royapetta hospital Rs. 8,995. I wanted to see, Sir, whether the number of patients treated in these different hospitals varied in the same proportion but there is nothing of that sort, so far as the Rayapuram and Royapetta hospitals are concerned”

15

The hon. the PRESIDENT:—“Order, order. Before the hon. Member proceeds further, I would like to point out to him that the present motion is on the establishment of medical officers and that hospitals and dispensaries come a little later on. I fear what the hon. Member is dealing with will be wholly outside this particular vote.”

MR. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR:—“My point was only this: that the change advocated by the hon. Mover and supported by me would really lead to economy also in different departments. That was how I had to bring this in. I do not want to go further into the matter. The reason for the low cost in the Royapetta hospital appears to be due to the use of bazaar medicines to a larger extent than in the other hospitals. If it was found advantageous to do so in the Royapetta hospital, I do not know why the same should not be done in other hospitals. Thereby we could save much money for other institutions or other objects. By reason of the inherent

[Mr. A. Ranganatha Mudaliyar]

[23rd March 1922]

defects of the system itself and by considerations of economy and many other things, which one has now no time to dwell upon, I think the system deserves to be changed altogether."

Khan Bahadur MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—" Mr. President, it is a matter of great satisfaction to hear from the hon. the Minister the various steps that have been taken during the last year to indianise the medical services. He has pointed out to us how a number of men in the provincial service were put in places which were hitherto occupied by Indian Medical Service officers and how such a provision is to be made for more. All these things go to show that the hon. the Minister has been taking steps in the right direction, steps in accordance with the popular opinion of the Legislative Council. So I do not understand why there should be any complaint at all. I cannot help expressing our admiration in the highest degree of the work done by our first Minister the hon. Mr. Ramarayaningar in conducting the affairs of the Local Self-Government department in a very able, efficient and conscientious manner giving perfect satisfaction to all parties concerned, be they Indians or Europeans."

Mr. F. J. RICHARDS :—" I wish to mention just one point, Sir. The hon. Mover asked why the number of District Medical and Sanitary officers has gone down from 24 to 23. That is because the one officer for the Agency division has been excluded from the item."

Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR :—" I am very thankful, Sir, for the information given by Mr. Richards. I was looking into the financial statement, but I could not find it there. That was however a small matter. I heard, Sir, some rumours that good work has been done by way of Indianization in this department. While other Ministers had an opportunity of showing as to what they had done, I am very glad that the hon. the Minister in charge of this department has now taken advantage of this opportunity and publicly announced as to what he has done. In the words of Mr. Usman Sahib, we all feel very thankful to him for what he has done. On the last point also, instead of simply communicating the proceedings of this Council, I request him to press his own opinion on the Cabinet and to address the Viceroy and the Secretary of State with the resolution of the Cabinet also on that point. We know the well-known proverb that young lawyers and old doctors should be preferred and in the Indian Medical Service also, with due deference to the many doctors here it is said that men become great doctors after murdering many people—after getting more experience in medical work they are able to become first-class experts in the Medical department. The difference between the Indians and the Europeans in the higher appointments is only this, that after retirement the Europeans will go away and we will not have the benefit of their experience while in the case of Indians that will not be the case. I once more thank the hon. Minister and the Secretary in charge of the department for their past work and we hope that all that we expect from them will be fully realized before the next budget is presented. With these words, I beg leave to withdraw."

The motion was by leave withdrawn.

23rd March 1922]

Motions 557 and 558.

The following motions were not made :—

Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—

557. *To reduce the allotment of Rs. 3,37,855 for establishment by Rs. 157*

Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—

558. *To reduce the allotment of Rs. 4,54,985 for establishment by Rs. 100*

Motion 559.

Rao Sahib U. RAMA RAO :—“Mr. President, Sir, I beg to make the following motion :—

559. *To reduce the allotment of Rs. 1,05,630 for matrons and nurses by Re. 1.*

“My intention is not to reduce the amount to show any saving but simply to draw the attention of the House and of the Minister to the amount of money that we are spending for nurses. Sir, in the year 1919 about Rs. 2,83,000 were spent for nurses whereas this year the amount shown in the budget is Rs. 1,05,630. I do not in the least grudge that we should spend more for the purpose of nurses. Nor do I complain that the nurses do not deserve this amount. With the exception of a few, three or four or half a dozen of them at the top, the rest do deserve the amount of money that they get. In fact, they ought to be better paid at any rate. At this rate we are not in a position to make any advance any further in nursing services. The nurses available for the different hospitals both in the city and the mufassal are very few, and we want to increase that number by at least double. To increase the number we must have money, and unless and until we try some other means to get some cheaper agency to manage the hospitals we would not be able to progress any further. So, instead of having these costly nurses, I propose to entertain Indian nurses at a cheaper rate. The nurses at present are paid from Rs. 400, 300, 200, 145, the lowest pay being Rs. 50, and the Indian nurses are paid Rs. 40 and Rs. 30. Certainly they are much cheaper. Sir, it is argued that Indian nurses are not so efficient as the English nurses. I do not believe in that statement. Again it is stated that Indian women do not come in large numbers to be trained as nurses. They do not come in large numbers because they are treated in a different way altogether. They are not given the same pay, for instance, as the English nurses. Indianizing the nursing service is the only possible way of improving the service. It is with this intention that I move this motion.”

Mr. F. J. RICHARDS :—“Mr. President, I entirely agree with the sentiment expressed by the hon. Mover, a sentiment which I believe is shared by many hon. Members of this House, that nurses are of supreme importance in connexion with medical relief. Members of the profession are the first to admit that however skilful a physician may be, however skilful a surgeon may be, bad nursing will let him down.

“My hon. Friend the mover of this motion has really confined himself to one point, viz., the recruitment of Indian nurses. That again is one, I think, I may say, in which the head of the department as well as the House are in entire sympathy. But there is a very real and substantial difficulty in inducing Indian ladies to come forward and take up this honourable profession.

[Mr. F. J. Richards]

[23rd March 1922]

"There are two schemes at present for the training of Indian nurses.—

"A One of them is the Government scheme at the General Hospital for which there are ten sanctioned appointments, and quarters for ten nurses have actually been built. Five women are entertained at present, and no more can be obtained. In 1920 there were 25 applications, but 14 of the applicants did not return their application forms, three were found to be unsuitable and only five could be entertained. In 1921 there were 22 applicants of whom 14 did not return their application forms; five were entertained, and three were found to be unsuitable. In 1922 so far only one application has been received. There are at present at the General Hospital five Indian nurses only, and it is doubtful how many of them will complete the course.

"The main difficulty in the way of training Indian nurses at the General Hospital is that they are unwilling to work in the men's wards. Now, all-round nursing is absolutely necessary in any hospital, and I think that the members of this House, being of the male sex, would rather resent the suggestion that nursing should be confined to female patients.

"B The second experiment is that started on the initiative of Sir Sivaswami Ayyar and another gentleman resident in Calcutta, Mr. N. R. Ayyar. The idea was to train Brahman or high caste Indian women as nurses at the Victoria Caste and Gosha Hospital. The Superintendent reports that out of seven nurses with which the scheme started, four remain and one has been dismissed, and the Superintendent is very doubtful as to the possibility of training the remaining three.

"I may perhaps at this point summarise the distribution of the Indian nurses in Madras. There are two Indian Christians (who are pupils) at the General Hospital: six Brahmans (who are also pupils) at the Caste and Gosha Hospital; of non-Brahmans there are three pupils at the General Hospital and one at the Caste and Gosha Hospital; and at Royapetta there are ten Indian nurses of whom eight are not fully qualified.

"Regarding the treatment of these nurses as compared with that of the Anglo-Indian nurses, I am informed there is no practical distinction except in the case of diet charges, and even there I think it is a generally understood principle that Indians require a little less than Anglo-Indians.

"One other point I wish to bring to the notice of this House. In the General Hospital last year out of nine sanctioned appointments of nursing sisters, no less than five were vacant; this year, the number vacant is six. Of staff nurses last year, out of 33 sanctioned appointments no less than 20 were vacant. In the current year, of 35 sanctioned appointments, no less than 20 are vacant. In other words, the sisters are two-thirds under strength, and the staff nurses three-fourths under strength. There are several reasons which I need not dilate upon for this reluctance of nurses to remain in service, one of the most serious being matrimony. An important factor is the question of emoluments. The attractions of private practice and the terms offered by the Queen Alexandra Nursing Service are so much more favourable than those which the Government, even after the reorganization can offer that the nurses trained in Government Hospitals tend to drift away to other spheres of work. As regards the importation of nurses from Great Britain, orders have not yet been passed guaranteeing them their passages outward and homeward, and no girl who has to subsist on the low pay that is given to

23rd March 1922]

[Mr. F. J. Richards]

nurses can be expected to come to this country without some guarantee that she would be given passage home again if she is invalided or has to quit service for some other sufficient reason."

Diwan Bahadur M. KRISHNAN NAYAR :—" Sir, I wish to put in an earnest plea both to the hon. Minister and the Surgeon-General to make serious attempts—I do not mean to say that they are not doing it now—to get the services of Roman Catholic nursing sisters. They are nuns and come generally from very good families in Great Britain, Switzerland, Belgium and other European countries. I have had occasion to see the work that is done by these nursing sisters elsewhere, and I can say that no body of nurses will render such faithful, effective and efficient service as these Roman Catholic nuns. From the point of view of expenditure, their services are not at all costly. They have to be provided of course with free quarters and the necessary clothing, and they have also to be provided with quarters for worship, and besides they will have to be paid a very small amount of money which will just suffice for keeping their body and soul together. The service that they render in the hospitals is not out of desire for money but out of their religious vow. And if we elicit the sympathy of the religious heads of the Roman Catholic religion, I feel confident that the services of at least some of these nursing sisters can be obtained. I put in therefore my earnest plea to the head of the department and to the hon. Minister in charge to enlist the sympathy of these religious heads so as to get the services of the nursing sisters."

Rao Sahib U. RAMA RAO :—" As most of the patients are Indians, and Indians would prefer only Indian nurses, I moved this motion, and now with the assurance of sympathy given by the Secretary I beg leave to withdraw my motion."

The motion was by leave withdrawn.

Motions 560 to 570.

3-15 p.m.

The following motions were not made :—

Mr. M. APPALANARASAYYA NAYUDU :—

560. *To reduce the allotment of Rs. 1,05,630 for matrons and nurses by Rs. 52,815.*

Rao Bahadur Dr. C. B. RAMA RAO :—

561. *To reduce the allotment of Rs. 3,56,000 for cost of medicines, etc., by Rs. 1 lakh.*

Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—

562. *To reduce the allotment of Rs. 9,36,914 for hospitals and dispensaries by Rs. 100.*

Mr. K. PRABHAKARAN TAMPAN :—

563. *To reduce the allotment of Rs. 5,00,000 for contribution to local bodies by Rs. 2·50 lakhs.*

Rao Bahadur Dr. C. B. RAMA RAO :—

564. *To omit the allotment of Rs. 15,000 for investigation of hookworm disease.*

[23rd March 1922]

Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR :—

565. *To reduce the allotment of Rs. 2,47,908 for salaries—Medical College—by Rs. 1,000.*

Mr. R. T. KESAVULU PILLAI :—

566. *To reduce the allotment of Rs. 90,000 for stipends and books of civil pupils by Rs. 100.*

Rao Bahadur Dr. C. B. RAMA RAO :—

567. *To reduce the allotment of Rs. 90,000 for stipends and books of civil pupils by Rs. 20,000.*

Mr. M. C. RAJA :—

568. *To omit the allotment of Rs. 15,000 for women's medical school, Madras.*

Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—

569. *To reduce the allotment of Rs. 4,87,700 for medical college and schools by Rs. 100.*

Mr. B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU :—

570. *To reduce the allotment of Rs. 47,75,347 for Medical Department by Rs. 5,000.*

Motion 571.

Rao Sahib U. RAMA RAO :—“ Mr. President, I beg to make the following motion :—

571. *To reduce the allotment of Rs. 47,75,347 for Medical Department by Re. 1.*

“ My object in moving this resolution, Sir, is just to place before the House and also before the Minister some of the irregularities in the Medical Department.

“ In the first place, Sir, last year when I urged the Minister to indianize the Medical Service, he said—and to-day also he said the same thing—that it was entirely left to the Government of India and the Secretary of State to deal with the Indian Medical Service. I know, Sir, that in this Presidency there are about 56 or 57 appointments over which the Minister has no control whatever. But when he had an opportunity of appointing Indians in places which were created of late, he could have insisted on those places being filled in by Indians. To give an example of such an appointment, I would mention the appointment of the X-ray Specialist in the General Hospital. He is not a doctor, he is not a medical man; he is only an electrician. He was brought to Madras on two years' agreement with the distinct understanding of training assistant surgeons and sub-assistant surgeons. At the end of the two years, Sir, I want to know how many men he has trained, and if he has not trained any, why he has not done so. Now I understand there is a proposal to make him permanent in that appointment. That appointment could very well have been held by an Indian. I know for the matter of that, that the son of a Civil Surgeon who was undergoing training in England was asked to undergo special training in X-rays, but when he came back with the X-rays qualification, the appointment was not given to him. I repeat that that appointment could have been very well given to an Indian. In that way the hon. the Minister has failed to indianize the Medical Service. Then again,

23rd March 1922]

[Mr. U. Rama Rao]

Sir, another place fell vacant in the King's Institute, Guindy, i.e., the place of the Assistant Director of the King's Institute. That place ought to have gone to an Indian. It does not come within any of those listed appointments. The Minister was not able to get that place for an Indian, and a member of the Indian Medical Service was called for, and that place was filled by him.

"Then, Sir, owing to financial stringency lots of temporary Assistant Surgeons' and Sub-Assistant Surgeons' places have been abolished. I welcome that. But when those places were abolished, the Government ought to have taken into consideration the case of those assistant surgeons and sub-assistant surgeons on whom they had not spent any money. They have given notice to those assistant surgeons who have undergone post-cultural training, to men who have undergone health officer's training, and to men who have undergone dental training. All that means cost to the State. Instead, they should have sent away only such of those on whom Government had not spent any money. Without taking this into consideration by sending such men away, the Government have lost the services of very valuable men. When these men go out of the Government service, they set up private practice, and when once they start practice, it is very difficult for Government to get their services back. And after all, they are men who have undergone various training, as I have already said, at the cost of thousands of rupees to the State.

"Then again, Sir, there is a peculiar thing in the Medical department. These assistant surgeons and sub-assistant surgeons are compelled to pass two septennial examinations before they are promoted to higher posts. Such analogy does not exist anywhere in any other service. Even the I.M.S. officers had once before to pass such examinations, but now they are granted study leave instead. These men who have put in 20, or 15 or 10 years' service are asked to undergo the examination. No doubt the Public Service Commission recommended that these men must not be asked to undergo an examination, but that they must undergo the post-cultural training. But now even when they undergo the post-cultural training, they are made to undergo this examination also. It is very humiliating for a man who has put in some 20 or 23 years of service to be asked to undergo this examination. Though it may not be a written examination, yet the candidate is examined and his efficiency noted, and he is not promoted to the higher grade unless and until the examining officer is satisfied. All these things are unheard of in any other department. By giving the post-graduate training to such men, we spend every year not less than Rs. 25,000 which money could very well be utilised elsewhere, in the shape of travelling allowance, or for purchasing medicine for poorer patients.

"Then again, with regard to compounders, they are very important persons. The lives of the patients entirely depend on them. They are not trained properly. They are not given any organised training, and they have no schools to undergo the training. They are simply asked to compound in the compounding rooms and they are examined by somebody and given a diploma. So much so, when they come out, they are absolutely useless. They do not know the dose of each drug, and do not know how to compound.

"Then again, Sir, when I gave notice of a resolution that the Personal Assistant to the Surgeon-General must not be a man of very high grade,

[Mr. U. Rama Rao]

[23rd March 1922]

that resolution was ruled out of order. Anyhow, Sir, there are some appointments for which private practice is not allowed. For instance, the Surgeon-General, the Sanitary Commissioner, the Chemical Examiner, and the Personal Assistant to the Surgeon-General are not allowed to have any private practice. But the present Personal Assistant to the Surgeon-General is allowed to have private practice. These men ought not to be allowed to have any private practice, because they will be influenced from outside. I have nothing to say against the present Personal Assistant to the Surgeon-General, and he is a personal friend of mine, but my complaint is only against the system. That system is bad. It is said that a full-time man is not engaged for that work, he is only paid Rs. 200 extra for the work he does, but if you do not want a full-time man, why do you appoint him at all. The work could as well be done by the Surgeon-General and his Manager, and that money could thus be saved. And if you want the present man to continue, he must not be permitted to have private practice.

“Then as regards the hookworm disease on which we are spending money year after year, that is a very good thing and ought to continue, but I would like to know how much money was spent so far, in what stage the experiments are, and how far it has improved the condition of the people.

“Sir, my object in bringing all these things to the notice of the Council is not with the object of reducing anything at all, but if all these things which I have mentioned will be favourably considered, or if any promise is held out that they will be favourably considered, I am prepared to withdraw my motion.”

Mr. C. NATESA MUDALIYAR :—“Sir, Mr. President, so much has been spoken about the indianisation of the Medical Service. Taking the profession of nurses into consideration, it is not want of any sufficient attraction that is the cause of the dearth of nurses. West has taken to nursing as a profession of honour and as a means of serving humanity, while the East has not come up to that level. That is how, Sir, we are having literate members of very respectable families and even Royal families taking to nursing in the West. So when we say that there are not Indian nurses, it is not because the Government are not willing to encourage them, but because our people are not willing to enter as nursing sisters.

“Again, coming to other services, so much is spoken of about indianisation. Sir, in this connexion let it be remembered that indianisation does not mean ‘Brahminisation’—excuse me, Sir, for saying so—for, in the pre-Reform days Indian meant ‘Hindu’ and ‘Hindu’ meant a member of a particular community. That is why in the pre-Reform days, we preferred a European oligarchy to any other oligarchy in this land. Now, our Minister has already promised to give effect to this indianisation of the Service. I have got my highest respect for the Indian Medical Service, but if you want to replace it by Indians, I request the Minister to see that communal representation is observed in its minutest details.” (Laughter.)

Rai Bahadur T. M. NARASIMHACHARLU :—“Sir, I have got only a few words to say, not in disparagement of the provision made already, but to bring to the notice of the hon. the Minister only a few facts concerning local bodies.

“In the first place, so far as the medical institutions in the mufassal are concerned, those medical institutions which have been in existence prior to 1915 were given and are continued to be given annually a small percentage.

23rd March 1922] [Mr. T. M. Narasimhacharlu]

That is, in the case of the sub-assistant surgeons, the municipalities are given 5 per cent and the local boards are given 10 per cent. In the case of civil assistant surgeons, it is I believe $7\frac{1}{2}$ per cent and $22\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. Sir, considering the increased cost and the increased pay of these establishments and the low finance of the local bodies, I would only request the hon. the Minister, if possible and if circumstances should be better during the course of the year, not to forget to make some adequate provision to meet the extra cost of the local bodies.

“Secondly, Sir, for those medical institutions which were started since 1915, no doubt half the cost is given, but the salary of the sub-assistant surgeons and the civil assistant surgeons has been increased without the consent of the local bodies. I object to it on principle. And if the Government wish to increase the salary in order to secure efficient service, they must take our consent beforehand. If they do not care for our consent, they must be prepared to meet the entire extra cost.

3-30 p.m. “Therefore to say that we will do as we please and pay half of the original promised amount only, I say, Sir, is not conducive to the dignity or welfare of the local bodies. Again, Sir, no doubt it is very good of the hon. the Minister to make a provision of 5 lakhs. It is admitted that even this 5 lakhs will not go even to meet half the cost. That is expressly admitted in the note prepared by Government themselves. I hope the Government will be pleased in the course of the year to make an additional provision if that can possibly be done.

“Thirdly, Sir, there is another grievance of the local bodies. That is with reference to the transfer of the medical subordinates. These medical subordinates are transferred by the Surgeon-General from one end of the Presidency to the other end, and the local bodies are made to pay the travelling allowance incurred thereby. I fail to see on what reason the local bodies are made to pay for these travelling allowances. Government retain the control, and I submit it is their duty to provide for the cost involved by the transfer. If it is only a transfer within the district, and if the district board president does it, then of course the local bodies must be called upon to pay for it. But why should the local bodies be called upon to pay for power and control which is entirely in the hands of the Surgeon-General and in the exercise of which even the local presidents are not consulted. Sometime ago it was said or it was so understood that in the matter of transfers local board presidents will be consulted. I have not yet been consulted so far as I am personally aware of on any such transfers. In fact transfers come all on a sudden and transfers come very frequently too and we are told we have no control over this matter. We are powerless. As long as you control, it is but fair that you should bear the cost of the transfer yourself. That is a thing, Sir, which I wish to bring to the notice of the hon. the Minister and request that a speedy redress of that grievance may be granted.

“Lastly as regards the provision for medical buildings I wish to say that either more buildings are necessary here or they require some extension there.”

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—“Do medical buildings come within this vote?”

Rai Bahadur T. M. NARASIMHACHARLU :—“They all come under this. A very small amount, Sir, in fact a few thousands are provided this year and

[Mr. T. M. Narasimhacharlu]

[23rd March 1922]

I submit that it is absolutely insufficient to meet the demand. One more thing and I am done. We are not yet in a fair prospect of introducing the system of Unani and Ayurvedic medicines, in the mufassal or in the metropolis. If such a system is evolved, and if that is to be brought into force in the mufassal, it will not only be appreciated by the people who are accustomed to it but it will also cheapen the existing system, that is the western system of medicine. So I submit the sooner the system of Ayurvedic and Unani systems of medicines are introduced the better will it be for all concerned. It is said that the report of the committee will not be out before the end of 1922-23. I submit it is not a very encouraging outlook to wait till the end of the next year. And then, when will it be considered by the Government, when will a system be evolved out of it and when will the institutions be started in the mufassal? I think it will take many years. That is not a very pleasing prospect."

Sriman BISWANATH DAS Mahasaya :—"Sir, I am very highly thankful to the hon. Member for Madras, I mean Dr. U. Rama Rao, for giving us an opportunity to discuss the medical policy of the Government. I am sure he never means to pass a vote of censure on the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government. But certainly, Sir, we have a right to discuss and put forward our proposals or observations on the medical administration of the Presidency. Dr. U. Rama Rao has very rightly called the attention of the hon. the Minister regarding the indianization of services. I think the declaration regarding the increased associations of Indians will have no meaning if we do not from this stage start on a progressive policy of indianizing the services. If such a policy is not pursued, I do not know how the required percentage of 48 per cent will come within ten years. This being a question affecting the whole population, and this Council being mostly of the representatives of the people of this Presidency, and the Ministers being the leaders of the successful party, I think we have a right to question them why such a policy was not followed. For the point raised by Dr. Natesa Mudaliyar I shall not be sorry (I should be very glad) if all the offices are filled by non-Brahmans. What I want is Indianization and not Brahmanization. Let the service be indianized, being filled either by the Brahmans or non-Brahmans. For myself, I shall be very happy and very glad if our non-Brahman friends will take up to responsible posts. Coming to medical aid, I am sorry, Sir, that adequate provision is not made for extended medical relief in this Presidency though too many Government Orders are issued from time to time. I had sad experiences of this when cholera broke out in the district of Ganjam. The sanitary inspectors and the cholera party's doctors that were sent to the districts were utterly useless and leaving the people helpless. In the first place they did not know the nature, customs and the language of the people. So we had to provide them each with servants who could also be interpreters. The pity is that the patients were all Oriyas, and the doctors were all Tamilians. The so-called cholera treatment was therefore utterly useless."

Mr. S. SOMASUNDARAM PILLAI :—"Generally speaking, the Medical department is the most important one. Among the Indians when a gentleman meets another gentleman one blesses the other with health, long life and prosperity. The first item that comes is health. So it is the bounden duty of the Government to look after the health of the people. If there is any failure in that department, who is to be blamed? Certainly it is not the Government.

23rd March 1922] [Mr. S. Somasundaram Pillai]

It is the people who ought to be blamed more for that. Generally speaking, our people do not appreciate English treatment. They believe that it costs more. Some of them believe the disease is due to some evil spirit and not due to any disorder in the body. Such being the case, how can they expect any success in the medical department? They generally call the medicine given in the hospital as 'hospital water,' for aqua forms greater part of it. So, after going two or three days to the hospital, they stop away. This is reported as a case cured. In one sense it is true. What else can they do? Whenever a person dies in the hospital they report the case as 'died.' The sense of sanitation and cleanliness of our people is very curious. Our people think it is most holy and clean if they purify their houses with cow-dung. But they think it is most impure if pure water is given by another man in the hospital to be taken in. They think that any kind of dirty water is clean and holy. This thing should vanish before you appreciate the treatment in the English hospitals. Any amount of money spent on this department is well spent, for it is for the purpose of the welfare of the people. Surely the people prefer Indian treatment to the English treatment. I mean the Unani and the Ayurvedic Siddha Vaidya treatment. We must also try to establish it on a scientific basis. There are any amount of vaidyans in India. Their medicine will never cure but in most cases kill people. We must try to do away with such people and establish the system on a scientific basis. You should infuse greater faith in the people by giving them better opportunity to appreciate the treatment. If this thing is introduced by the Government, I think the Government will be doing the greatest good to the people. You should indianize the service, but in doing this you should see to select one who is clever and honest. If you appoint one who will say that the operation was successful but the patient died under chloroform, we do not want such sort of report, and we do not want such a sort of man. There must be clever men and honest men who will do their duty conscientiously not caring for their selfish interest. Most of these surgeons are allowed to have their own private practice. In the villages there is no chemist's shop; every hospital is turned into a chemist's shop. They bring the medicine to their homes for their private practice and they give water as medicine to the poor in the hospital. That practice should be put a stop to. I once more beg that our Medical department should be reorganized and more money should be spent."

Diwan Bahadur M. RAMACHANDRA RAO PANTULU:—"I want to have some information from the hon. the Minister. There is one item called 'Contributions to local bodies.' I should like to know whether Government have accepted the recommendation of the Finance Committee and if so whether this five lakhs represents the half-share of the maintenance of the hospitals of local bodies. I believe the hon. the Minister is perfectly aware that the cost of maintaining these institutions has gone up very much. Medicines are certainly much more costly than before. And as has been pointed out by my friend Mr. Narasimhacharlu, the further charges by increase of pay to assistant surgeons and sub-assistant surgeons have been thrown upon these local bodies. The Government have done so even without consulting them. I should like to know from the Minister whether the Government have accepted the recommendation and if so whether this five lakhs represents the half-share."

[23rd March 1922]

The hon. Mr. P. RAMARAYANINGAR :—“Sir, the question raised by my friend Mr. Ramachandra Rao is in regard to the recommendation of the Financial Relations Committee. The Government have accepted the principles underlying the recommendations of the Financial Relations Committee, but they have not as yet come to a decision regarding the proportion of the grants to be paid to the medical institutions under local bodies. The amount of five lakhs is not calculated at 50 per cent rate. If 50 per cent grant is to be given to all the institutions, the amount required will be a great deal more. But for the present the idea is that some relief should be given to the local bodies though not at the rate of 50 per cent.

“Now coming to the criticisms of Mr. U. Rama Rao, to begin with I have only to tell him that I have been doing my best to secure as many appointments for Indians as I can. Recruitment to the Indian Medical Service is made by the Secretary of State.

“Sir, the hon. Member has referred to the appointment of assistant director in the King Institute. So far as that appointment is concerned, it is entirely not in my hands, it is in the hands of the Government of India. He has also taken me to task for having appointed Captain Barnard as Radiologist. The captain has a European reputation as a radiologist and his war work is spoken of in very high terms by the highest authorities. We could not have appointed a better man.”

Sriman SASI BHUSHANA RATH Mahasayo :—“May I know, Sir, where his work has been reviewed, in India or in England?”

The hon. Mr. P. RAMARAYANINGAR :—“In England and on the Continent. He has completely justified the high expectations and I have no doubt that those of the hon. Members who have visited the institution are sure to appreciate his services.

“Mr. Rama Rao's next criticism is in regard to the post-graduate course to the assistant and sub-assistant surgeons. Better authorities than Mr. Rama Rao consider that such a course is necessary in the interests of the service. He has also complained that the Government have not appointed the son of an assistant surgeon as a radiologist. It is true one Mr. Graham applied for the post but he was not found fit for the place.”

Rao Sahib U. RAMA RAO :—“It is not Mr. Graham that I referred to.”

The hon. Mr. P. RAMARAYANINGAR :—“I do not know whom he means. I should like to know the particular person he is referring to.”

Rao Sahib U. RAMA RAO :—“If the hon. Minister wants the name now, I have no objection to give it. It is the son of Doctor Verghese. He has got a letter written by the authorities here.”

The hon. Mr. P. RAMARAYANINGAR :—“In any case, we have secured the services of the best man available.”

Rao Sahib U. RAMA RAO :—“Is he a medical man, Sir?”

The hon. Mr. P. RAMARAYANINGAR :—“He is a Radiologist. He may not be an M.B. & B.S. or L.M.S. of the Madras Medical College or an L.M.P. of the Rayapuram Medical School.”

23rd March 1922]

Rao Sahib U. RAMA RAO :—"But the man I refer to is an M.B. & B.S. of the Edinburgh University. He is not an M.B. & B.S. of the Madras Medical College or an L.M.P. of the Rayapuram Medical School."

The hon. Mr. P. RAMARAYANINGAR :—"That may be, but we want a Radiologist and not an M.B. & B.S. of this University or that University. We want an expert in radiology."

"Sir, another criticism which he has levelled against the Government is that compounders should not be given any training. I was rather surprised to hear that from the hon. Member. Medical men seem to think that it is necessary that the compounders should have some sort of training."

Rao Sahib U. RAMA RAO :—"My complaint is that compounders are not given proper training."

The hon. Mr. P. RAMARAYANINGAR :—"But the head of the department thinks otherwise. He considers that the training that is given to the compounders is quite good."

Rao Sahib U. RAMA RAO :—"Otherwise, he would have given a better training." (Laughter.)

The hon. Mr. P. RAMARAYANINGAR :—"One more complaint of Mr. Rama Rao is regarding the appointment of personal assistant to the Surgeon General and his having been allowed to have private practice. Perhaps Mr. Rama Rao thinks that it is not desirable to entrust the powers of appointment to a medical officer with private practice. The personal assistant having nothing to do with the appointments, I do not understand why Mr. Rama Rao should take objection to the personal assistant being allowed to have private practice. If we insist on having a full-timed officer as personal assistant to the Surgeon-General and insist on his not having private practice, we have to pay him considerably more, and this the Government are not in a position to do at all events at present. Besides, as matters stand now, that appointment is a listed appointment. No assistant or civil surgeon can be appointed until the Secretary of State accepts the recommendation which, as I stated, this Government had already made."

Sriman Sasi BHUSHANA RATH Mahasayo :—"Has this Government made any recommendation with regard to that?"

The hon. Mr. P. RAMARAYANINGAR :—"Yes, Sir; the appointment of personal assistant to the Surgeon-General is one of those appointments which this Government recommended to the Secretary of State to be thrown open to the provincial medical men."

"Sir, as regards hookworm disease, the Local Self-Government Secretary will reply."

"My hon. Friend Mr. Narasimhacharlu has complained, and I must say rightly too, of the hardships which frequent transfers bring on to the local bodies. The Government are alive to these hardships. The Surgeon-General is just now engaged in formulating a scheme which, if adopted, will greatly minimize the hardships. Mr. Narasimhacharlu has also referred to the inadequacy of the provision for medical buildings. I fully sympathize with him and assure him that, if more funds are available, the Government will be glad to make a more generous provision for the medical buildings."

"As regards the points which Mr. Das has raised, they cover the same ground as those of Mr. Rama Rao and so I have nothing more to say than what I have already said."

[23rd March 1922]

Sriman BISWANATH DAS Mahasayo :—" Regarding cholera parties, Sir ? "

The hon. Mr. P. RAMARAYANINGAR :—" Yes, Mr. Das has also referred to the unfitness of the cholera party that was sent to the Ganjām district. My only reply is that I cannot accept the oral statement of Mr. Das. But at the same time I assure him that, if any complaint comes through the proper channel, i.e., either through the district board president or the district medical and sanitary officer, the Government will certainly inquire into the matter and see if there was really anything wrong."

Sriman BISWANATH DAS Mahasayo :—" May I say for the information of the House that the district board had a special committee regarding this and has made certain specific recommendations to the Government ? "

The hon. Mr. P. RAMARAYANINGAR :—" The committee has to forward their recommendations to the Government through the district board president."

Rao Sahib U. RAMA RAO :—" I want to know, Sir, from the Minister for Local Self-Government whether in other parts of the world an X-ray man is a medical man or not."

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" The Minister has already replied."

Rao Sahib U. RAMA RAO :—" But I want to know, Sir, whether in other parts of the world the X-ray man is a layman."

" Another point which has not been answered is whether the X-ray specialist who was specially sent for to train the sub-assistant surgeons, and assistant surgeons has trained them. If not, why has he not trained them ? "

Diwan Bahadur R. VENKATARATNAM NAYUDU :—" I move that the question be now put."

The motion that the question be put was put and carried.

Rao Sahib U. RAMA RAO :—" I want to withdraw my motion."

The hon. the President said that he was unable to allow the Member to withdraw the motion at that stage as the closure had been moved and carried.

The main motion (of Mr. Rama Rao) was then put and was unanimously negatived.

Rao Sahib U. RAMA RAO :—" I demand a poll, Sir."

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" The motion has been unanimously negatived."

Rao Sahib U. RAMA RAO :—" I said 'aye'."

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" I did not hear it."

The question that the Government be granted a sum not exceeding Rs. 48.57 lakhs under Demand XVII—Medical was put and carried.

The grant was made.

DEMAND XVIII—PUBLIC HEALTH AND VITAL STATISTICS.

The hon. Mr. P. RAMARAYANINGAR :—" I move, Sir, for a grant not exceeding 27.20 lakhs of rupees for the Department of Public Health and Vital Statistics."

23rd March 1922]

Motion 572.

Mr. R. SRINIVASA AYYANGAR :—“ Mr. President, I beg to make the following motion :—

572. *To reduce the allotment of Rs. 80,100 for general branch by Rs. 15,000.*

“ This item for which I am making this motion is to be found at page 168 of the budget estimate under the heading ‘ General branch.’ This item, as the House will be able to see, has shown a tendency to go up year by year. In 1920-21 there is a provision for Rs. 44,961, in 1921-22 the budget estimate gives us Rs. 57,600 as compared with the revised estimate of Rs. 66,200. Coming to the budget estimate under discussion we find provision being made for Rs. 80,100. On going through the details, I am led to think that this increase is due partly to the revision of salaries of the assistant directors of public health and partly to the strength of the assistant directors having been raised from three to five. The House will also be pleased to note that each assistant director is started on a salary of Rs. 500 on the incremental scale going up to Rs. 1,000 and in addition thereto he is also permitted to draw a local allowance starting on Rs. 200 and going up to Rs. 350. In the year previous, i.e., 1921-22, we had only three assistant directors of public health, whereas in the lean year in which we are being threatened with a financial crash and when the financial condition may be said to be in a state of despair, provision has been made to increase the cadre by two. It also inevitably carries with it the local allowance of these two officers. I should like to know what necessity has been felt for raising the strength of the assistant directors from three to five. Whatever necessity there might have been, I venture to submit with confidence, having regard to the financial stringency, whether it is not proper to allow it to stand over until matters improve. We cannot think of increasing the staff and increasing the establishment and thereby increasing the burden upon the people, especially when during these five days we have been fighting very hard, if I may say so, and we have been engaged in the task of scraping to the very bone. I am not impressed with the necessity of increasing the strength of the assistant directors from three to five.”

4 p.m.
Rao Sahib U. RAMA RAO :—“ Sir, I strongly oppose this motion on the ground that it is not possible for one assistant director to tour all over the Presidency. If any amount of money is spent upon public health, so much amount will be a saving in the Department of Medicine. Prevention is better than cure and in a matter like public health we are not spending as much as we ought to spend for preventing illness. So, I strongly object to this motion.”

Rao Bahadur T. BALAJI RAO NAYUDU :—“ Sir, having tabled a similar motion, I beg to support this motion. There is an increase of one assistant director of public health made this year. Three has been increased to five and one assistant director omitted; which makes an increase of one. The amount spent on the establishment and on the officers is Rs. 64,394, whereas the amount allowed for public health purposes for the whole Presidency is Rs. 82,677, which will give an average of about Rs. 3,400 for each district. As we all know, the work done by these officers is simply to supervise the vaccination work and to look after the fairs and festivals. To look after the vaccination work there are inspectors who are

[Mr. T. Balaji Rao Nayudu] [23rd March 1922]

paid from provincial funds. There are also the district medical and sanitary officers to look after this work and also the sanitary conditions. These deputy directors or assistant directors are not in any way superior to the district medical and sanitary officers. I do not see any utility in having these officers for only looking after the vaccination and for supervising the arrangements at festivals. That being so, I am in favour of abolishing this establishment, or if that establishment is considered necessary, the Sanitary Commissioner may be done away with and two assistants may be kept on to supervise the work of the local boards, etc. I am not quite in favour of taking away this amount from the budget, but I want it to be used as an addition to the grant already made or for other purposes relating to sanitation and public health. Recently the Government seem to have started a scheme of appointing a few sanitary officers for some districts as a tentative measure. If funds permit, I think other districts may be allowed to have a sanitary officer, each paid from provincial funds. If that scheme is going to be extended, I think more districts may be provided with health officers. With these remarks, I support the motion of my hon. Friend Mr. Srinivasa Ayyangar."

Mr. O. TANIKACHALA CHETTIYAR :—" May I ask the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government to give the names of the two gentlemen who have been appointed ? "

The hon. Mr. P. RAMARAYANINGAR :—" They are Captain Subrahmanyam and Mr. Adiseshayya.

" Sir, objection has been taken to the appointment of assistant directors of sanitation on the ground that they have not been doing good work hitherto. It is true that hitherto they have been attending to the supervision of vaccination and other unimportant matters ; but now the whole scheme has been revised, and according to the present scheme, they have to attend to important matters. Five districts are required to have health committees with qualified staff to attend to sanitary arrangements. In other districts where no such committees are formed, the sanitary work has to be done under the supervision of the assistant directors of sanitation. My hon. Friend Mr. Balaji Rao Nayudu suggested that the services of the assistant directors might be utilized in connexion with the formation of health committees in districts other than the five districts. The Government are trying the scheme as an experiment in the five districts. If the experiment proves successful, committees with qualified staffs will be formed in other districts. So far as the present assistant directors are concerned, they are already appointed. I believe my hon. Friend Mr. R. Srinivasa Ayyangar is under the impression that the appointments are to be made in the next year. If so, he is labouring under a mistake. The appointments have already been made. As I have stated, the suggestion of Mr. Balaji Rao Nayudu is engaging the attention of the Government. They propose to extend the system of appointing district health committees to other districts. As soon as these committees are formed, and the district health staffs organized, the abolition of appointment of range assistant directors may be considered."

Mr. R. SRINIVASA AYYANGAR :—" I understood the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government to state that these two appointments had been made. Turning to page 57 of the Financial Statement, we find that out of the two

23rd March 1922] [Mr. R. Srinivasa Ayyangar]

officers, one assistant director was appointed late in the year. There is absolutely no indication in the passage that follows that the other gentleman too has been appointed. These are the words used in the Financial Statement—

‘The saving in the revised estimate for 1921–22 as compared with the budget occurs in the lump provision for two additional assistant directors as only one was appointed late in the year.’

‘The increase in the budget estimate for 1922–23 as compared with the revised is mainly due to the revision of the pay of assistant directors, to a full year’s provision being made for the fifth assistant director.’

“Therefore, I beg to submit that both those posts were not filled when the provision was made in the budget. Anyhow, in view of the statement of the hon. the Minister, that the scheme is under revision, that experiments of having committees in some districts is about to materialise, I do not want to weaken the hands of Government by pressing this motion to a division. In view of the sympathetic statement made by the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government, I beg leave to withdraw my motion.”

The motion was by leave withdrawn.

Motions 573 to 577.

The following motions were not made :—

Rao Bahadur T. BALAJI RAO NAYUDU :—

573. *To reduce the allotment of Rs. 1,49,400 for public health by Rs. 64,394.*

Rao Bahadur A. S. KRISHNA RAO PANTULU :—

574. *To reduce the allotment of Rs. 3,45,576 for public health establishment by Rs. 20,000.*

Mr. M. C. RAJA :—

575. *To reduce the allotment of Rs. 40,000 for grants on account of municipal health officers by Rs. 20,000.*

Dr. C. B. RAMA RAO :—

576. *To reduce the allotment of Rs. 22,320, the cost of eight cholera duty assistant surgeons, by the cost of four.*

Mr. B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU :—

577. *To reduce the allotment of Rs. 26,63,676 for public health by Rs. 100.*

Motion 578.

Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—“I beg to make the following motion :—

578. *To reduce the allotment of Rs. 27,07,676 for public health by Rs. 100.*

“Sir, my object in tabling this motion is to raise the question of the general policy which underlies the administration of this department. I am afraid that in this department we have far too many high officers without ever having the means by which we can carry out the several plans they would naturally put forward as a result of their investigations. That, I think, is a mistaken policy to be adopted anywhere. I think none of us should go in for advice if we are not prepared to act on that advice or if we have not the necessary means to carry out that advice into practice. We have a sanitary commissioner and five assistant directors and a huge establishment. I should like to know what it is that we can do to profit by the several wise counsels which I have no doubt they are giving us from time to time.

[Mr. A. Ranganatha Mudaliyar]

[23rd March 1922]

I may tell the hon. the Minister that, even if a humble individual like myself is deputed to go about the country and suggest means for improving sanitation, etc., he will find that he will have more suggestions than he can possibly attend to. I shall go from village to village and suggest to the Minister that manure pits should be removed to outside the village limits, stagnant pools should be covered, that prickly-pear should be cut and burnt, and so on. Why, I can multiply my suggestions. But what is it that the Minister can do? He has no money with him to carry out any of my suggestions. If these modest proposals I have enunciated have failed for want of funds, what should I say of the unduly costly schemes which these highly paid officials would find it necessary to put forward to justify their appointments? I think the whole system requires a thorough overhauling. Take for example the question of Director of Town-planning. They appointed Mr. Molony for a year."

The hon. the PRESIDENT:—"Does town-planning come within this vote?"

MR. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR:—"Yes, Sir, it is included in this vote. I myself was astonished to see town-planning included under this head. Now, Sir, Mr. Molony was working for a year. I know him very well and he is likely to have given the Government new schemes. He should have flooded the hon. the Minister with new proposals. I find that a successor has been appointed and it will be the same story with him also. I do not think any useful purpose will be served by continuing these high officers without carrying out the plans they suggest and would appeal to the hon. the Minister to take that aspect of the matter into consideration. I am sure the hon. the Minister has his sympathies with me though his official reply may belie what he has in his heart."

MR. F. J. RICHARDS:—"My hon. Friend, the mover of this motion, suggests that ordinarily one does not seek advice unless one
4-15 p.m. sees one's way to carrying it out. This reminds me, if I may dilate for a moment, of a man who went to consult a specialist about his health. He was a Scotchman. The specialist asked him to abstain from all his favourite weaknesses, to give up his tobacco, his whisky and soda, his coffee, tea and cocoa and in fact everything he liked. As the man took up his hat to leave, the specialist asked 'What about my 3 guineas?' 'What for,' asked the patient. 'Three guineas for my advice' was the reply. The patient retorted 'But I am not taking your advice.'

"I am afraid, Sir, a little too much of that spirit prevails among local bodies and in this House with regard to the Director of Public Health and his assistants. Complaint has been made—and that, I think, is almost the only point that I have to answer—that too many 'high officers' are appointed, and that they can do nothing if they have not got the staff or the money to carry out their views. That exactly is the position. As was already explained in the debate on the resolution previous to this, I am sorry to have to retrace the ground that has been traversed—at the present moment we are at the parting of ways; an entirely new policy is under contemplation. District health staffs and district health boards are to be tried in five selected districts. Three cholera parties have already been disbanded and divided up among those districts. A number of health officers

23rd March 1922]

[Mr. F. J. Richards]

have been trained. If the scheme after a year or so of trial proves successful, if ways and means can be found to expand it, and if other district boards are prepared to adopt the experiment, it may be possible to do away with a number of these 'high officers'. But it would be madness at the present moment, when preventive measures are so extraordinarily backward in this Presidency, to get rid of these officers before the new scheme is assured of success and before all districts are equipped with preventive officers and staff.

"It is necessary, even if these assistant directors were abolished, that there should be a few expert officers at headquarters to co-ordinate the knowledge gained in special branches of preventive medicine. I am informed that there are no less than nine such officers in the Bengal Presidency; none of them are 'range' officers like our present Assistant Directors. They are all engaged at headquarters in collating and putting into form, both practical and useful, the information derived from the districts. I hope the House will bear with me for a moment if I give a concrete instance. Under present arrangements, if there is an outbreak of cholera in a district the cholera party is wired for. The medical officer and his sanitary inspectors (and possibly also a deputy sanitary commissioner) proceed to the spot. It takes time for them to get there, four or five days, possibly a week or more. An epidemic of cholera reaches its maximum intensity in a very short time—it may be within 24 hours. It may have begun to die out before the cholera party arrives. That is not *prevention*. Now in most districts of this Presidency cholera breaks out at definite seasons and travels from village to village along a definite route. It is a matter for local investigation to ascertain the dates on which outbreaks may be expected and the routes they will probably follow in each area in the district and by skilled investigation it should be possible to determine within a margin of error of a week or so either way when an outbreak is likely to occur and to take steps to prevent it. It will be a real economy both in labour and in human life, if preventive measures can be made really preventive and if the local preventive staff can anticipate the period of outbreak.

"Money has been referred to by some hon. Members as the chief necessity. But I am inclined to think that the greatest necessity at the present moment is not so much money as work and hard thinking. I may cite as an example the campaign against hookworm, which has not yet been discussed. Objection has been taken that we know all about hookworm and its cure. Now we know that about 98 per cent of the population of this Presidency is infected with hookworm and it has been pointed out that if all local agencies would set themselves to establish units of their own, with very little expense hookworm might be stamped out. The hookworm problem is now a matter of campaigning. It has passed the investigation stage. Two things are necessary—(1) treatment and (2) propaganda against ignorance. Now, if arrangements could be made to treat every patient in every hospital and dispensary, every convict in every jail, if every mission or social service association takes up the campaign, if treatment could be accorded in every industrial school, orphanage and asylum, if every landlord on behalf of his tenants, and every local board, municipality or criminal settlement would establish units of their own, this scourge, which so seriously impairs the man-power of this country, would be eradicated. Action on these lines would not be expensive. But the public conscience is not sufficiently

[Mr. F. J. Richards]

[23rd March 1922]

aroused, and the public are not sufficiently informed of the dangers of this disease to set local agencies going. But until these local agencies take up the work, it would be a gross dereliction of duty for the Government to relax their efforts to stimulate preventive activities.

“One more word, Sir, and that is as regards the appointment of the Town-planning Officer. The appointment of Mr. Dann was decided on before the discussion on the budget last year, and before the appointment of Mr. Molony. It would, I think, be out of order to discuss at a budget meeting the work done by Mr. Molony. Mr. Dann is now endeavouring to tackle the housing problem. I am perfectly sure that there is no member of this House who is not deeply interested in the improvement of housing. A superficial acquaintance with this subject will convince any one that a solution of the problem is utterly impossible if the cost is to be met solely from taxation either by the Provincial Government or by local bodies. On the other hand, such experience as we have had shows that improvements in housing can be effected on a self-supporting basis in some cases, on a basis which is very nearly self-sufficing in others, and in other cases again, on a basis which is actually remunerative. It is for every local body—and I think every member of this House also—to consider whether it is not possible to improve the conditions under which people live not only in Madras City, but also in the mufassal on rational business lines, so that the increase in land values accruing from the improvements effected may be secured for the benefit of the tax-payer instead of inflating the profits of private speculators. It is hoped that on these lines Mr. Dann will be able to justify his appointment.”

Rao Bahadur A. S. KRISHNA RAO PANTULU :—“I agree with the hon. Member who has just now spoken that it is desirable to make all efforts for the improvement of public health and to form district units for the purpose of organizing a regular system for carrying out that object. At the same time, I find it impossible to subscribe to the proposition that what is important is not so much funds as hard thinking. It is there that I entirely disagree with him. It is my duty to place before the Council certain facts to show that the local bodies are not in a position to carry out all the objects they have in view as the hon. the Government Member desires. It is said that instructions of the sanitary officers have to be carried out. It is also pointed out that they must consider means by which the masses are to be regularly instructed by health propaganda. I may assure him that we have been paying consideration to this aspect as much as possible. We have also organized in some places Public Health Committees. But though we have organized public health committees we have not been able to achieve anything useful; we have not the means to vote for funds for carrying out these works. In most of the rural parts what is needed is good drinking water. Time was when the Government gave liberal grants for that purpose as minor sanitary grants. These grants have now been stopped. No doubt if application is made for some specific purpose, grants for relief are given; but there is no regular system as in former years for improving the water-supply in these rural areas. So long as the question is not looked at from that standard, it is not possible to effect any improvement in that direction. We were again told that the recommendations of the sanitary officers ought to have been attended to by the local bodies. It is true. But if the recommendations involved items of expenditure which they cannot meet, what are they to do? Nobody knows more than the Secretary for

23rd March 1922] [Mr. A. S. Krishna Rao Pantulu]

Local Self-Government Department the fact that several of the local bodies have sent up proposals to close hospitals and dispensaries for want of funds. That is the state in which they are at the present moment. Does he expect that they will, without substantial financial assistance from the Government, be able to carry out any useful work for the improvement of the public health of the districts? Apart from the principles and theories put forward, if the Government really wish that the public health in the Presidency ought to be improved, it must be in the direction of carrying out such measures in district centres. Is it supposed that five or six officers who make periodical visits now and then to the various districts will be able to do useful work considering the area of the Presidency and considering the magnitude of the various districts? It is impossible to believe that under these circumstances they will be able to do their work satisfactorily. We must therefore devise a measure by which each district will be a unit by itself, a self-contained unit and will be able to carry out all measures concerning public health. If this financial question is not settled, there is no use asking local boards to work out some theoretical policy unless after examining carefully the resources of every local board he is able to lay his finger on a particular item of revenue available for the purpose. If it is not possible to point out any income at their disposal available for this purpose, it is necessary for the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government to place the whole case before the combined Government and see that adequate grants are given. If no such efforts are made, I may assure this House that the appointment of five or six officers or even more without proper allotment of funds will not serve any useful purpose, however long we may discuss this aspect of the question."

Diwan Bahadur M. RAMACHANDRA RAO PANTULU :—" Sir, the whole question of public health is beset with many difficulties, and
4-30 p.m. the main difficulty is one of finance. I know that the five gentlemen are very admirable men in themselves, and I am certain they will write very admirable reports, which will be printed and reviewed and then sent to the local bodies for explanation and the explanation will come that there is no money to be spent on public health."

Mr. F. J. RICHARDS :—"I thought it was made clear in the debate on the previous resolution that it is not proposed to increase the number of 'range' assistant directors and that, of the five men, three are on a temporary footing and only two are permanent and that it is not proposed in the immediate future to place any more on a permanent footing. We are at present in a transitional period ; the three existing ranges must be retained till district health staffs are sufficiently organized to replace them and meanwhile two or three assistant directors will be put in specialist's work at headquarters on the lines that have already been explained."

Diwan Bahadur M. RAMACHANDRA RAO PANTULU :—" Sir, the hon. Member's explanation has not improved my position. My contention is this : that whatever my hon. Friend may do, whatever the new public health board may say, whatever the district public health board or committee which has to be formed is likely to do, all their suggestions will ultimately result in financial proposals. I do not suppose my hon. Friend will deny that proposition. Unless therefore the question is tackled on financial considerations, nothing definite will be achieved. I may give an illustration. In one of our northern

[Mr. M. Ramachandra Rao Pantulu] [23rd March 1922]

districts, at one time, the district officer and the assistant health officer went round the whole village and drew up about two hundred to three hundred reports of inspection. The proposals contained in those reports, if carried out, would have meant several crores of rupees. Therefore the whole question, if the hon. the Minister is anxious to improve the position, is to seriously consider where the money is to come from.

“Suggestions have been made, and one of them was that it is contemplated to acquire lands in the neighbourhood of towns. My hon. Friend Mr. Richards said that either the Government or the local bodies will immediately acquire land for the purpose of development in the neighbouring parts of the town. That is diverting into the pockets of the tax-payers or local bodies all the profits of speculators. But has anything been done in that direction?”

The hon. Mr. P. RAMARAYANINGAR :—“I assure my friend, Sir, that in many cases sites have been acquired and large tracts of land have been acquired by the Government.”

Diwan Bahadur M. RAMACHANDRA RAO PANTULU :—“I am delighted to know that; I am still more delighted that the hon. the Minister has risen to tell us that. Is it in the neighbourhood of the Government House. (The hon. the Minister : ‘No.’) Is it in the neighbourhood of Madras? (The hon. the Minister : ‘Yes.’) Very well; so all our improvements centre round the City of Madras.”

The hon. Mr. P. RAMARAYANINGAR :—“Even in the mufassal. Some of the municipalities have been asked to acquire lands.”

Diwan Bahadur M. RAMACHANDRA RAO PANTULU :—“I claim acquaintance with the municipal administration. Schemes have been put forward time after time and they have all been turned down. I do not blame the present Minister, but we have no system of finance and the whole trouble arises from our not looking squarely in the face of this important question as to how we are to finance our town-planning schemes. Unless the hon. the Minister is in a position to announce a policy of financing these large town-planning schemes which have been pending for a long time, I do not think there is any likelihood of any improvement in our position.

“Another question of great importance which has a bearing on public health is that many of these drainage and water-supply schemes have been pending for years without any financial prospect. I know the whole question was reviewed five years ago and schemes involving three to four hundred lakhs for water-supply and drainage have been pending for want of funds. Nothing has been done, and in the present budget, an inadequate sum of five lakhs has been provided for that. My hon. Friend may say that the present financial position does not allow more. But this must come from loan funds. If my hon. Friend wishes to do any good in the way of improving public health he must largely centre his activities on loan transactions. I am certain it has nothing to do with the current revenues of the province at all. Again, the whole question is ultimately a question of finance. And if the hon. the Finance Member and my hon. Friend the Minister will put their heads together and put forward a definite and comprehensive scheme of improvement, it is only then that these three officers who have been newly appointed will be useful.

23rd March 1922] [Mr. M. Ramachandra Rao Pantulu]

“Only one other matter, Sir, and that is, some reference has been made to the Town Planning officer. Sir, we are told that he was appointed before Mr. Molony's appointment was made and he has come here, and I think he has come for a definite term of years. I think he will draw very admirable plans again. We have Mr. Lanchester's plans for the improvement of Madras; we had Mr. Geddes's and we shall have more. Of course they will all be admired and finally pigeon-holed. And when this Town-planning Officer departs from here, I do not think any more improvements will have been effected than what have been there already. That again is a question of finance. He will draw up schemes and submit them to the Government and my friend the Surgeon-General will admire them and forward them to the Minister and the Minister will forward them to the municipalities, and the municipalities will say they have no money, and then the whole matter will come to an end. Therefore I think the whole question of public health ultimately resolves itself into a question of finance. If there is one policy which the Minister may evolve, for the improvement of sanitation, for the improvement of towns and cities and for any improvement in our rural life, it depends on this question of finance; so every problem is beset with difficulty and ultimately it resolves itself into a question of finance. I do not object to these five appointments; I wish success to the experiment, but I fear that it will end in nothing as many other experiments have done.”

Mr. S. T. SHANMUKHAM PILLAI:—“Especially because I am a representative of the rural areas I wish to say a few words. The condition of public health, sanitation and water-supply in rural areas is simply wretched. I cannot say that the amount which is now allotted for the purpose, namely, 27 lakhs, is a bit in excess. I think more may be given if it can be properly spent and in the right direction. I do not want to discuss the question as to the necessity or otherwise of the appointment of the additional deputy directors or assistant deputy directors. It is for the Government to see whether such an appointment is necessary. They are the controlling authority. No doubt in many cases it is left to the local bodies. In communication with them they may decide the question. Anything that could be saved may well be spent on the improvement of sanitation and water-supply. People suffer very much—I may say they are almost grovelling in filth and dirt in the rural areas. No money is properly spent in that direction. I see from the budget all that is provided for on account of water-supply, etc., is Rs. 8,00,000 which is inadequate. Even the amount that was sanctioned has not been utilized in the rural areas. I would ask the hon. the Minister to see to this point and issue distinct instructions to the local bodies to attend to the matter of improvements of sanitation, to the public health and water-supply in rural areas.”

Rao Bahadur C. V. S. NARASIMHA RAJU:—“Mr. President, Sir, no other question is better connected with the well-being of the rural population than public health. On this matter the Local Government was pleased to accept the recommendations of the Financial Relations Committee regarding the minor sanitary grants. Hitherto, the minor sanitary grants to local bodies were on an average coming to 12 lakhs. If you take the grants that were made hitherto, for the last 10 or 12 years, it comes to twelve and odd lakhs a year. This amount was given up because the Financial Relations Committee has recommended it. If the Government had accepted other recommendations of the Financial Relations Committee in other directions in

[Mr. C. V. S. Narasimha Raju] [23rd March 1922]

which the aid is to be given to the local bodies and then accepted this recommendation it would have been quite different. On the other hand, without accepting any other recommendation, such as contribution for secondary education, aid for medical relief and various other objects, they simply accepted the recommendation of the Financial Relations Committee that they should not give any grant in this particular direction. That is a very unsatisfactory policy. The masses in the rural areas cannot be satisfied by any other measure which the Government may adopt in the matter of public health. The first thing which the rural population is mainly concerned with is drinking water-supply. What does it matter to the masses so long as they do not get their drinking water-supply? There are various villages where drinking water cannot be obtained and the villagers have to go a long distance to get water; sometimes they have to go miles even to get their fresh water-supply. The only answer I expect of the Government is that they have given new powers to the local bodies to augment their resources and to say that it is their duty to make arrangements for water-supply. I may mention here, Sir, that it is all illusory to say that the resources of the local bodies could be augmented. I may mention, Sir, that though the new Act was in force for a very short time, the local bodies have almost taxed to the full extent and they find their resources are not enough even to meet the ordinary demands, because the cost of maintaining the services they are maintaining has gone up and so it gives no satisfaction at all to say: 'We have augmented your resources, you had better tax yourself and get your water-supply.' That is a very unsatisfactory state of things. I hope the Government will re-examine the whole question and do something for the masses in this direction.

"In this connexion I wish to point out that the resources of the Local Government were augmented during the course of these two years by the new settlement of provincial and imperial revenue to the extent of nearly two and a half crores, but all that went towards the augmentation of the pay of the public services and not a single pie went for the improvement and well-being of people in the rural areas."

The hon. Mr. P. RAMARAYANINGAR :—"Sir, I have nothing more to say except to add a word or two in reply my hon. Friend, 4-45 p.m. Mr. Ramachandra Rao's remarks. He said that everything depended upon the financial position. I do not deny this, but we cannot postpone the execution of certain schemes until we get money. It may be that we are faced this year with a deficit budget, but this state of things may not continue for ever. We must be prepared with schemes even if we have no funds for their execution. Moreover there are schemes which may not require large investments and yet the execution of which may require skilled supervisor. For instance, dealing with hookworm disease requires more propaganda and preventive measures, which may not cost large outlay. The assistant sanitary directors are expected to arrange for propaganda as well as actual preventive work. In these circumstances, I do not think it would be advisable to do away with these officers. I quite sympathise with those of my hon. Friends who deplored the fact that we have not been able to budget for costly schemes, but I need hardly say that is due to the fact that our revenues for the year have considerably fallen."

Mr. S. ARPUDASWAMI UDAIYAR :—"Might I ask for some information, Sir? The hon. Member Mr. Richards, in the course of his remarks, referred

23rd March 1922] [Mr. S. Arpudaswami Udaiyar]

to the hookworm disease and I find the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government has also spoken of this disease. I think the hon. Member Mr. Richards said that 98 per cent of the people of this province are infected with this hookworm. This is an alarming statement. (Laughter.) He went further on to say that the result of the infection, if unchecked, would be the destruction of the man-power of India. Sir, if 98 per cent of the people of this province are infected by this disease, I think it might very well be that 50 per cent of the hon. Members of this House are also infected (laughter). Therefore, Sir, I should like to have some information on that point, on what authority Mr. Richards has made that statement. If his statement is well supported by evidence, I should like to know what steps the Sanitary Department have taken or are intending to take in order to eradicate this pest."

Mr. F. J. RICHARDS :—"I had hoped to be able to place on the table of this House two pamphlets which would answer fully the questions asked by my hon. Friend. The pamphlets are in the press, but unfortunately I could not get them in time. I think probably to-morrow I can place the pamphlets in his hands and the hands of other members of the House. I do not wish to take up the time of the House in answering in detail his question at the present moment. It is rather a long story."

Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—"I wish only to make a few observations before I withdraw this motion. The hon. Mr. Richards as well as the Minister for Local Self-Government referred to the hookworm disease. I think the question of hookworm disease is an imperial matter, and if so, the Central Institute at the headquarters should, strictly speaking, look to this matter and further, from what has been said it appears that there is nothing more to be done in the matter. All that can be known is known and what remains to be done is only to popularise the information that we have already got, and for that I do not think why we should have a provision of Rs. 15,000 under that item. It is not a small sum at all and I would only refer to the hon. the Revenue Member who considered that even Rs. 25 was a very big sum for him and ask whether Rs. 15,000 which is many times over Rs. 25 is not a big sum. If it can be saved, it has to be saved. As regards the other points, I do not think it has been seriously disputed that while we are not able to spend much money upon schemes, we are spending on establishment more than what is necessary. However, I withdraw my motion."

The motion was by leave withdrawn.

The question that the Government be granted a sum not exceeding 27.20 lakhs under Demand XVIII—Public Health and Vital Statistics was put and carried.

The grant was made.

DEMAND XIX—AGRICULTURE.

The hon. Rai Bahadur K. VENKATA REDDI NAYUDU :—"I beg to move for a grant not exceeding a sum of Rs. 14.82 lakhs under Demand XIX—Agriculture.

[23rd March 1922]

Motions 579 to 581.

The following motions were not made :—

Mr. T. C. TANGAVELU PILLAI :—

579. *To omit the allotment of Rs. 6,600 for Personal Assistant to the Director of Agriculture.*

Mr. M. NARAYANASWAMI REDDI :—

580. *To omit the allotment of Rs. 6,600 for Personal Assistant to the Director.*

Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR :—

581. *To omit the allotment of Rs. 6,600 for additional assistant to the Director.*

Motion 582.

Mr. T. C. TANGAVELU PILLAI :—“ I beg to make the following motion :—

582. *To omit the allotment of Rs. 6,600 for additional assistant to the Director.*

“ I move, Sir, this motion only to elicit information as to what are the qualifications and duties of the additional assistant to the Director.”

The hon. Rai Bahadur K. VENKATA REDDI NAYUDU :—“ Sir, the additional assistant's place is perhaps better described as a statistical assistant's place. The question was raised last year, Sir, and this House was pleased to sanction the appointment. On that occasion, I brought to the notice of the House that the information prepared by this officer was demanded by the Cotton Committee and the Board of Agriculture, and I also pointed out the various advantages accruing to the Government and to the country from the preparation of these statistics. In addition to these bodies, the Cotton Committee and the Board of Agriculture, two other bodies of a responsible kind, have also recommended the preparation of these statistics, after the above debate took place in this House. The Sugar Committee and the Industrial Committee have also recommended an intensified preparation of statistical information. Sir, the duty of examining statistics by tahsildars hitherto undertaken by the Board of Revenue is now transferred to the Agricultural department. Orders are in the course of being issued in this matter. This was originally agreed upon in G.O. No. 2290, dated 13th October 1919, but it was held in abeyance with a view to consider the question of the simplification of the karnam's accounts. Such simplification is found impossible and all the work of statistics done by the Board of Revenue will have to be hereafter undertaken by the Board of Agriculture, that is, by the special officer. The preparation of the weekly season report should also be undertaken by the Director of Agriculture, as also the return of retail prices. At present 6 crops are being forecasted ; in all 18 periodical forecasts relating to paddy and industrial crops are submitted by the karnams, revenue inspectors and tahsildars. There is also a demand for statistics of the main food crops, such as ragi, cholam, cumbu, varagu, Italian millet and samai. There is also a difficult problem of the estimates of outturn of mixed crops.

“ The advantages of these crop forecasts and statistics can never be over-estimated. They give us an idea of our food supplies and will enable us to prepare ourselves against famine or scarcity conditions. They also assist the producer and the trader in this country in fixing prices especially

23rd March 1922] [Mr. K. Venkata Reddi Nayudu]

in the case of forward contracts. To be forewarned is always to be forearmed and the statistics are useful as indicating to the ryot, to the merchant and even to the foreign trader and manufacturer, to Government and public men, the barometer of production which so largely guides the barometer of prices. These statistics are thus useful to the country as well as to the Government.

“The question is also, to some extent, of international importance. The international character of the trade in sugar and cotton is well known. India can no longer remain in isolation. The trade in and the prices of her industrial crops are determined by the world markets and accurate statistics are all the more necessary to steady her markets. Information as to the total quantity and value of agricultural produce and the average annual income of the agricultural classes from year to year is useful as showing where we stand and what the essentials are for the country's further progress. It is to statistics that we must turn in order to obtain answers to several questions which are of vital importance to the country. The following are some such questions:—

(1) The pressure of population on the soil and the question of an approaching insufficiency of food supply, a problem which very often threatens our country, as already mentioned.

(2) The replacement of extensive by intensive cultivation.

(3) Changes in the economics of agriculture and changes in agricultural conditions due to changes in prices and wages of labour and other causes.

(4) Variations in livestock and their sufficiency or otherwise.

(5) The proportion of breeding to young stock and how this is affected by the spread of cultivation as giving an index to our supply of milk, wool, skin, meat, etc.

“The factors of statistical importance are (1) production, (2) consumption, (3) amount in stock and (4) prices. Their future inter-relation at any moment has to be judged from their inter-relation in the past. Another use of price statistics is to show the changes in the purchasing power of money and this is essential if the economic phenomena of different countries or at different periods are to be compared. This is done by the use of index numbers. Again, the comparison of wages and prices shows the improvement in the economic condition of the people which is the vital concern of every civilized Government.

“Sir, all this work is being attended to by this one officer who is assisted by a very small staff. Last year I brought to the notice of the House what agencies America employs in preparing this statistical information. There is considerable demand for our forecasts even as they are. The Tuticorin Cotton Merchants' Association and several cotton traders in Bombay are constantly asking for our reports and the last mentioned are urging for more frequent reports on cotton. The Agricultural Department is also publishing returns every week of the cotton received at mills and pressed and these returns are sent to 104 companies or individuals interested in cotton. The value of these statistics has been repeatedly acknowledged by the trade. All this work has to be done by the Statistical Assistant.

“I have to say only one word more, Sir. In a letter, dated 2nd March 1922, the Secretary to the Indian Central Cotton Committee has observed as

[Mr. K. Venkata Reddi Nayudu] [23rd March 1922]

follows about the Madras forecast: 'I believe Madras is considerably ahead of several other provinces in the accuracy of the figures.'

"I have submitted how these figures are necessary and it is impossible that these figures could be prepared except with the help of a specialist. I may also bring to the notice of this House, Sir, that this specialist Mr. Viswanatha Rao has been asked for by the Government of India for their statistical work and the Director of Agriculture found it impossible to spare his services and in order not to stand in his way was prepared to recommend him for a higher salary. We have got a very able officer and the figures furnished by him are more accurate than those in any other province and I think it will be a great disservice to the country if this appointment is taken away."

Diwan Bahadur M. RAMACHANDRA RAO PANTULU:—"I should like to have one small information. I think the hon. the Minister said that this was a portion of the work hitherto done by the Board of Revenue. So, is this a new appointment?"

The hon. Rai Bahadur K. VENKATA REDDI NAYUDU:—"It is not a new appointment."

Diwan Bahadur M. RAMACHANDRA RAO PANTULU:—"May I know whether, in consequence of the reduction of the work of the Board of Revenue, there has been any reduction in the establishment of the Board? This is a very relevant inquiry. I do not wish to discuss the international importance of these statistics."

The hon. Rai Bahadur K. VENKATA REDDI NAYUDU:—"Whether my hon. Friend wishes to discuss the international importance of these statistics or not, no Government can claim to be civilized if it does not prepare statistics. As for the question with which my hon. Friend is more interested, viz., whether there was any reduction in the establishment of the Board of Revenue, I may tell him that the establishments hitherto doing this work will be transferred to this work under the additional assistant."

The motion was by leave withdrawn.

Motion 583.

5 p.m.

The following motion was not made:—

Mr. B. MWUNISAMI NAYUDU:—

583. *To reduce the allotment of Rs. 9,000 for additional assistant to the Director.*

Motion 584.

Mr. T. C. TANGAVELU PILLAI:—"Sir, I beg to make the following motion:—

584. *To omit the allotment of Rs. 1,200 for duty allowance to personal assistant.*

"Sir, it does not need many words to commend this motion to the House. We are bound to support the wishes of this House, that as far as possible all the duty allowances which are now being given should be abolished. With these few words, I move this proposition."

Mr. M. NARAYANASWAMI REDDI:—"Sir, I have given notice of a similar motion. I think that the duty allowances given to the various officers

23rd March 1922] [Mr. M. Narayanaswami Reddi]

should be abolished. The Members of the House have expressed themselves in no uncertain terms regarding the omission of these duty allowances. We find that duty allowance is provided for the personal assistant to the Director of Agriculture at the rate of Rs. 100 a month. We, at first, understood that the Government intended these duty allowances only as a temporary measure intended to remedy some adverse circumstances which are of a temporary character. But they are continuing these duty allowances always. It seems to me that no good case has been made out to allow these duty allowances. The Government must go into the whole question, as recommended by the Salaries Committee and see whether these allowances can be merged in salaries or dispensed with. I therefore press for deletion."

The hon. Rai Bahadur K. VENKATA REDDI NAYUDU :—"Sir, so far as these duty allowances are concerned, it seems to me that the House is more or less determined to take them away. In fact, in one or two previous cases they have been done away with already. Whether the cause is the same as mentioned by my hon. Friend, I may say that I do not wish to go against the wishes of the House. There is only one matter which I must, however, bring to the notice of the House, namely, that while they accepted to omit, or rather have taken away the duty allowances of some officers in the city of Madras, they have not taken away similar allowances in the case of others. Of course, if it were left to me, I should have said that in the city of Madras where these officers live, the cost of living is higher than in the mufassal, and the house-rent alone covers a large portion of the allowance that we are giving. Anyhow as the House is of opinion, and as it appears to me the whole House is anxious, that these allowances should be taken away, I do not wish to oppose this motion. But, Sir, if finally it turns out that some officers in the city of Madras are allowed and others are not allowed this duty allowance, we may have to come before the House with an additional application or a supplementary demand for grant, so that there may be some consistency of procedure in this matter. For the present, I am prepared to accept the motion of my hon. Friend Mr. Tangavelu Pillai."

Rao Bahadur T. BALAJI RAO NAYUDU :—"Sir, in supporting this motion, I beg to state for the information of the House that we, the members of this House made a serious mistake. There were some motions for the omission of duty allowances, and some were voted against, under the head 'Land Revenue.' Then we thought that the matter ended in a compromise by the hon. the Revenue Member consenting to deduct Rs. 5,00,000 from the total grant under that head, and that all the items of duty allowances allowed to the deputy collectors lent to the various departments would go under that head. So when we discussed other items in the budget, there was no opposition about these duty allowances, or anybody getting them. But later on, it is stated that all the deputy collectors who were lent to other departments like General Administration, etc., were not affected. If that is so, the personal assistant to the Chief Conservator of Forests and the personal assistant to the Inspector-General of Registration are the only unfortunate men who are to suffer by the resolution carried by the House. If the general opinion expressed in this House of omitting all duty allowances is not to be given effect to by the Government, but only the particular duty allowances voted against will be cut out, I think we will either have to cut out all the duty allowances or give back the duty allowances specifically voted

[Mr. T. Balaji Rao Nayudu]

[23rd March 1922]

against. In fact, there is no reason why a number of officers in the Presidency town, for instance the Assistant Secretary of the Finance Department, temporary Additional Secretary, Revenue Under Secretary, Development Under Secretary, Under Secretary of the Law Department and Assistant Secretary to the Board of Revenue, should get the duty allowances; and only the personal assistant to the Chief Conservator of Forests and the personal assistant to the Inspector-General of Registration should lose their duty allowances? If that is so, we shall have to deduct all the duty allowances, or allow the hon. the Home Member to bring in a supplementary demand for grant in the case of these two officers of the Presidency town. In regard to the officers of the mufassal, my opinion, as also the sense of the House, is, that the duty allowances should be disallowed for all officers of all classes."

Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR :—"Sir, I also gave notice of a similar motion. I thought, Sir, that after the hon. the Minister has agreed to take away this duty allowance, the motion might be withdrawn so that it might be utilised by the department in other ways. Whatever that may be, a grave position has been raised, namely, that because an understanding was practically come to that all duty allowances should go away, we thought we need not press the motions for omissions of duty allowances in some departments. The only difference we thought was that in non-votable items which affect civilian officers they might not be bound by the decisions of this Council, and the two civilian officers that spoke on that subject would not take the responsibility of cutting short the duty allowances which are non-votable. So far as the votable items of duty allowances were concerned, I think a few motions were pressed and voted upon in some cases, and in the e cases they were carried by a large majority. Therefore, in any case, a kind of understanding was come to, and some cases of duty allowances were not taken up, as it was thought that it was left to the Executive officers of the departments to similarly cut them off. Our opinion was not that any one or two of these duty allowances should go so far as votable officers are concerned. I am sure that some of us would bring a resolution so that it would also be possible to cut down the duty allowances in non-votable cases also, as we believe that it would be considered invidious that some officers should draw duty allowances while others do not, that highly paid officers should receive the allowance while officers on lower pay are not allowed to draw it. I think that all officers who are now receiving duty allowances should continue to do so, unless we are able to decide that no one should receive it at all. So I would request the House to consider the position before disposing of this motion."

The hon. Khan Bahadur MUHAMMAD HABIB-UL-LAH SAHIB Bahadur :—"Sir, as I was specifically referred to by my hon. Friend Mr. Balaji Rao Nayudu, I think I ought to make my position somewhat clear in regard to these duty allowances. It was urged by him, if I understood him aright, that because I agreed to a lump deduction of Rs. 5 lakhs from the total grant which I had asked on behalf of my department, and as the Council had already voted against the duty allowances in respect of one particular set of unfortunate officers, therefore there was a sort of understanding in his own mind that I was going to effect a similar stoppage of duty allowances in the case of other officers about whom motions had been tabled but either were not discussed, or if discussed were not pressed. May I remind the hon. Member that the reduction of Rs. 5 lakhs which was of course discussed and

23rd March 1922] [Mr. Muhammad Habib-ul-lah Sahib]

voted upon by this House was the last item in the agenda of that day. All the motions which related to the elimination of duty allowances in regard to a variety of heads which were embraced in my grant had been previously before the House; some of them, as I said, were not pressed, and some of them discussed and withdrawn. It was only in regard to the Indian settlement officers and the assistant settlement officers that I complained that the Council had shown their wrath in the extreme. I tried to save them from that wrath but I found myself helpless. I was able to understand the attitude of the House by reason of the fact that Settlement officers and Survey officers have unfortunately been criticised rather adversely in this House more often than once. There was, I submit, no sort of undertaking between myself and the House as regards the duty allowances which were neither discussed nor pressed. The only duty allowance which was discussed and carried by the House was the duty allowance relating to the Settlement Department. To that extent, I confess I will take the sense of the House into consideration. But that I should extend the same action in regard to departments where duty allowances have not been withdrawn by the vote of the House, I do not think, Sir, would be in any way a correct position to adopt. Nor is it indeed correct to infer that I agreed definitely, when the final vote for the reduction of Rs. 5 lakhs was passed, to extend a similar process of elimination of duty allowances wherever the words 'duty allowance' occurred in the whole budget grant relating to the department. I just wish to clear that misapprehension."

The hon. Sir LIONEL DAVIDSON :—"As I also have been referred to, I think, Sir, it is incumbent on me to say a few words in order to bring out clearly, as I understand it, the position which has now arisen. Hon. Members or some of them have realized the fact that the effect of their resolutions will be to penalise one individual or two individuals out of many who are practically in an identical position. I refer to those officers who are on the cadre of the Deputy Collectors and hold selective appointments in the city of Madras. I will not take it any further—to any wider area—as I understand that is the point taken. It had special relation to an officer in whom I have particular interest, the personal assistant to the Chief Conservator of Forests. I did my utmost to prevent the Council from carrying a motion depriving that deserving officer of a duty allowance, but I was unsuccessful. I had to send word to him that I much regretted the decision of the Council which I thought involved an injustice to him, but that as the resolution had been carried, I saw no means of evading the force of it and must therefore give him the alternative of resigning his present appointment and going back to the regular line or continuing to serve in Madras without the allowance on the assurance of which he originally accepted the appointment. The Chief Conservator and I shall be very sorry indeed if as a consequence of the resolution of this House and the pressure of his domestic circumstances, he replies 'I cannot afford to serve any longer in the appointment I now hold, and must ask to be relieved of it and posted to some other appointment in the regular line'. I told him that if he elected the latter alternative, I would do my utmost to see that he was not deprived of any portion of his duty allowance until he had been actually relieved by the Revenue Department, which I would request to make immediate arrangements for the purpose. That, Sir, is the position which has arisen. Some of the hon. Members of this House have been struck by the anomalies which arise out

[Sir Lionel Davidson]

[23rd March 1922]

of their action in reducing duty allowances in some cases and not pressing or withdrawing motions for the reduction of duty allowances in other cases. My hon. Colleague Mr. Habib-ul-lah has pointed out that there was no understanding that he should make similar reductions in all cases. His repudiation of that suggestion is quite in consonance with my recollection of what took place.

“ Personally I should be very glad indeed if some decision could be arrived at which would have the effect of remedying what I personally regard as an injustice to the personal assistant to the Chief Conservator of Forests. I say nothing about other officers such as the personal assistant in the Registration Department. Now it is one thing to say that what is considered to be an injustice should be remedied, and it is quite another thing to say exactly how that result can be achieved. But if there really is a general feeling that it is desirable to remedy what I look upon as an injustice and what hon. Members may regard as something less serious but still worthy of being remedied, I would suggest that perhaps the best method of bringing out the sense of the House in the matter is by forcing a division on this motion, it being understood that a substantial majority in favour of the retention of the duty allowance in this case is at least some indication of the sense of the House that something should be done to remedy the action previously taken. I merely suggest this course. I have actually received a personal representation signed by, I think, 12 members of this House who voted in favour of striking off the duty allowance of the personal assistant of the Chief Conservator. The purport of it is that they would be glad to have the matter settled otherwise if the effect of that note is to create an anomaly directly prejudicing one officer out of several. The Government cannot act on any representation received from 10 or 11 members of the House. But if the House should signify in any way by a substantial majority that it sympathises with the view taken by these 10 or 11 members, the Government would be ready to consider whether there are any means of giving effect to that desire.”

Diwan Bahadur M. RAMACHANDRA RAO PANTULU :—“ Sir, the statement of the hon. the Home Member has come upon me as a surprise, especially that portion of it that he received a representation from 12 members of this House for a reconsideration of the votes which have already been given. So far as I am concerned, I will say this: this question of duty allowance was under discussion last year and also this year. It was discussed in connexion with the first of these demands, Land Revenue. It was again discussed in connexion with civil justice for district and sessions judges, I do not say that there was any distinct understanding between the Revenue Member and the House; but I did understand that the House has, in these two or three motions, given sufficient indication of their desire in regard to cutting down the duty allowances of the officers in the provincial service. I did not understand the House in any other manner except this. If now the Home Member says that there is no understanding, that the Government will not take it as indicating the wishes of the House—”

The hon. Sir LIONEL DAVIDSON :—“ May I rise to say that I never suggested or intended to suggest anything of the sort. The position is that whereas the sense of the House as originally indicated was in favour of cutting down duty allowances and whereas now a section of the House is

23rd March 1922]

[Sir Lionel Davidson]

desirous of making a modification in particular cases, what I wish to ascertain is whether that section is an important section covering a majority of the House or not."

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—"I very much fear that the House has been for the last 15 minutes engaged in a discussion somewhat irrelevant and opposed to the standing orders. When Mr. Balaji Rao Nayudu said that there was some misapprehension, I thought I might as well allow that to be cleared up. But the thing has turned out to be something more than a mere misapprehension. What evidently some hon. Members are troubled about is that in some cases the House has voted omission of the duty allowance, and in other cases it has not. They now come forward and say that the action of the House has produced an anomaly. But how that general question of anomaly is relevant to this motion whether the duty allowance to the personal assistant to the Director of Agriculture should or should not be omitted, I confess I do not see. In view of the statement that the Home Member has made that by some process of voting upon this particular motion we could take the sense of the House with regard to the general question of duty allowances, I feel bound at once to warn hon. Members that that cannot be done. Whatever some hon. Members may or may not have in their minds, what they will now vote upon is the question of the duty allowance, proposed to be omitted, in the case of the personal assistant to the Director of Agriculture."

The hon. Rai Bahadur K. VENKATA REDDI NAYUDU :—"There is no question of voting necessary, as I am prepared to accept the motion, Sir."

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—"The voting is nevertheless necessary."

Mr. T. C. TANGAVELU PILLAI :—"I may be permitted to withdraw it, Sir" (Cries of 'No, no.')

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—"Let me finish. That is the situation as I have explained. My impression is this. The House was of opinion in some cases that the duty allowance should go, and in other cases that it should not go. When the question of misapprehension was first raised, I hardly thought that it would take this turn. Votes are taken on definite principles. Every motion is read out, is discussed, and is finally voted upon unless withdrawn. And if after all the trouble that I have been taking to make things as clear as I can, if hon. Members at the end of a few days rise up and say that they have been under a misapprehension, either I must be wanting in clearness or the hon. Members must be wanting in an adequate understanding of things. That is what it comes to. So far as I am concerned, let hon. Members clearly understand that the votes already taken cannot be gone back upon. In regard to subsequent motions, hon. Members may vote as they please. But a vote upon one motion cannot in any case be taken to be equivalent to a vote upon any other motion, or all motions put together, much less could it be taken to mean a reversal of a vote or votes already taken. The position is very clear, and I would beg hon. Members to understand the issues clearly and avoid further misapprehension in regard to them. I may also add that if hon. Members on the non-official benches feel that certain duty allowances had been passed by a misapprehension it is open to them to bring up a consideration of those allowances by way of resolution.

[The President]

[23rd March 1922]

If the Government feel that a perfectly clear vote of the House must be reversed, it is properly open to them to bring forward a supplementary demand at a later stage."

The hon. Sir LIONEL DAVIDSON :—"I wish to be quite clear, Sir. I am doubtful if it is open to the Government to bring forward any such supplementary grant. If I do not mistake the rules, there are great difficulties in the way."

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—"I do not say I have examined the rules. I only mention it in passing. Were not certain travelling allowances cut down, and did not the hon. the Home Member reserve to himself the right to bring forward a demand for a supplementary grant at a later stage with regard to those allowances?"

The hon. Sir LIONEL DAVIDSON :—"May I venture to say, Sir, that I spoke of allotments for travelling allowances which stand altogether on a different footing? A duty allowance when cut out goes for good. But when a portion of an allotment for travelling allowance is cut out, the balance remains and can be utilized for perhaps two-thirds of the year."

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—"There is probably nothing sacrosanct about these things. A duty allowance goes when it is omitted; and if it is put back, it comes. But I cannot permit a vote upon the motion now before the House to be taken to indicate the wish of the House in regard to any general question. Also I feel that I must refer to the incident which the hon. the Home Member has mentioned. Certain hon. Members have evidently written to him privately stating that they had been under a misapprehension in regard to certain votes taken in the House in which they had participated. While of course it is perfectly open to any hon. Member to write to the Government, explaining his position in any case, I must point out that the proceedings of this House are public; the share which hon. Members take in them is also public. I do not think the House could now cognize any statement like that made behind its back. I do not presume to blame any hon. Member for having written what he has. But so far as the House is concerned, I feel bound to rule that the House is not called upon to take note of such a thing."

The hon. Sir LIONEL DAVIDSON :—"Sir, by way of personal explanation, I should like to say that the representation which I referred to was presented to me this afternoon at 3 o'clock, and that I had had no previous intimation or anything of that sort. And so far as I am personally concerned, I am quite prepared to place it in your hands at once. I was consulted on the question whether I could suggest any means of enabling the signatories to give effect to a change which they personally desired. My answer was that it was essential to ascertain whether the change that they desired was desired by the House as a whole; and if that could be ascertained by any means then it might be possible for Government to meet their wishes. I do not wish for one moment to take advantage of this motion as a means of going back upon any previous decision of this House. But I am responsible for suggesting one method of elucidating what as a fact are the wishes of this House. You, Sir, have just ruled any such procedure to be out of order. But I must emphasize that my only object was to ascertain the wishes of the House in the matter."

23rd March 1922]

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" With reference to what the hon. Member has said, I would say that I have not questioned the hon. Home Member's intentions."

The hon. Sir LIONEL DAVIDSON :—" I looked on it as an inference not from what you said, Sir, but from what has been said by certain hon. Members in the course of the discussion. I should like to take this opportunity to explain that it was my intention to prevent any inference being drawn that Government are seeking to force the House to a reconsideration."

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" As for the paper that is proposed to be placed in my hands, all I would say is that I take no interest in it. I will leave it where it is."

Mr. T. C. TANGAVELU PILLAI :—" I press the motion, Sir."

The motion was put and declared carried.

Mr. B. Muniswami Nayudu demanded a poll, but again just before the commencement of the poll, said that he did not want it, on which the hon. the President observed: "An application for poll once made cannot ordinarily be withdrawn."

A poll was then taken with the following result :—

Ayes.

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1. The hon. Mr. P. Ramarayananingar. | 27. Diwan Bahadur K. Suryanarayanamurti Nayudu. |
| 2. " Rao Bahadur K. Venkata Reddi Nayudu. | 28. Mr. T. C. Tangavelu Pillai. |
| 3. The hon. Rao Bahadur A. P. Patro. | 29. Diwan Bahadur R. Venkataratnam Nayudu. |
| 4. Mr. E. Periyannayagam. | 30. Diwan Bahadur M. Ramachandra Rao Pantulu. |
| 5. Mr. R. K. Shanmukham Chettiyar. | 31. " M. Krishnan Nayar. |
| 6. Mr. A. Ramaswami Mudaliyar. | 32. Mr. C. V. Venkataramana Ayyangar. |
| 7. Mr. K. Adinarayana Reddi. | 33. Rai Bahadur T. M. Narasimhachari. |
| 8. Mr. S. R. Y. Ankinedu Prasad Bahadur. | 34. Rao Bahadur C. V. S. Narasimha Raju. |
| 9. Mr. M. Appalanarasayya Nayudu. | 35. Mr. K. V. Ramachari. |
| 10. Mr. R. Appaswami Nayudu. | 36. Mr. A. Ranganatha Mudaliyar. |
| 11. Rao Bahadur V. Appaswami Vandayar. | 37. Mr. M. R. Seturatnam Ayyar. |
| 12. Mr. B. P. Devarajulu Nayudu. | 38. Mr. R. Srinivasa Ayyangar. |
| 13. Rao Bahadur P. C. Etirajulu Nayudu. | 39. Mr. M. Suryanarayana Pantulu. |
| 14. Sir P. Tyagaraya Chettiyar. | 40. Rao Bahadur A. S. Krishna Rao Pantulu. |
| 15. Mr. S. I. Shanmukham Pillai. | 41. Mr. T. Arumainatha Pillai. |
| 16. Rao Bahadur T. Balaji Rao Nayudu. | 42. Rao Sahib E. C. M. Masoarenhas. |
| 17. " T. A. Ramalinga Chettiyar. | 43. Mr. A. T. Palmer. |
| 18. Mr. W. Vijayaraghava Mudaliyar. | 44. Mr. K. Prabhakaran Tampam. |
| 19. Mr. B. Muniswami Nayudu. | 45. Khan Sahib Muhammad Abdur Rahim Khan Sahib Bahadur. |
| 20. Mr. M. Narayanaswami Reddi. | 46. Khan Bahadur Muhammad Usman Sahib Bahadur. |
| 21. Mr. C. Natesa Mudaliyar. | 47. Rao Sahib P. Venkatarangayya. |
| 22. Rao Bahadur A. Ramayya Punja. | |
| 23. Mr. W. P. A. Saundara Pandia Nadar. | |
| 24. Mr. T. Somasundara Mudaliyar. | |
| 25. Mr. A. Subbarayudu. | |
| 26. Dr. P. Subbarayan. | |

Noes.

1. Mr. S. Arpudaswami Udaiyar.

| 2. Rao Bahadur T. Namburumal Chettiyar.

[23rd March 1922]

Neutral.

- | | |
|----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| 1. The hon. Sir Lionel Davidson. | 7. Mr. R. Littlehailes. |
| 2. „ Sir Charles Todhunter. | 8. Mr. P. T. Rajan. |
| 3. „ Khan Bahadur Muhammad | 9. Mr. F. J. Richards. |
| Habib-ul-lah Sahib Bahadur. | 10. Mr. S. Somasundaram Pillai. |
| 4. „ Mr. K. Srinivasa Ayyangar. | 11. Mr. V. C. Vellingiri Goundar. |
| 5. Mr. T. E. Moir. | 12. Mr. S. Muttumanicka Achari. |
| 6. Mr. C. W. E. Cotton. | |

The motion was carried, 47 voting *for*, 2 *against* and 12 remaining *neutral*.

Motion 585.

The following motion was not then made :—

Mr. M. NARAYANASWAMI REDDI :—

585. *To omit the allotment of Rs. 1,200 for duty allowance to personal assistant.*

The Council then adjourned at 5-35 p.m. to meet at 11 a.m. on Friday the 24th day of March 1922.

L. D. SWAMIKANNU,
Secretary to the Legislative Council.

வாய்மையே வெல்லும்
TRUTH ALONE TRIUMPHS